

Teachers told to cut holidays

TEACHERS' annual holidays By Judith Judd could be cut by five weeks a year under proposals to be drawn up by local authority leaders today.

In return, the councils, who employ 400,000 teachers, want and Margaret Hodge, the inthe Government to spend an extra £6bn on education. Some mons Select Committee on of that money would have to be used to raise teachers' salaries to compensate for the big cut in holidays from 13 weeks to eight. Teachers' leaders said last night that they would only conconditions if they were given a 50 per cent pay increase.

Education Editor

holidays has been circulating in Whitehall since the election, fluential chairman of the Com-Education, recently suggest-

ed such a move. Under the authorities' plans, the five weeks cut from the holidays would be used for in-service training, staff meetings, sider the change in working parents' evenings and lesson preparation. That would mean strengthen education ministhat teachers would not need to

work such long hours after school. Teachers would be required to come into school on The idea of cutting teachers' 215 days a year, instead of the present 190 + 5 for in-service training, but the length of school terms would remain un-

> Members of the Local Government Association, the umbrella body for local authorities, met David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education last week to discuss ways of raising standards. They believe their proposals will ters' case for more money.

be demanding an extra £6bn for education from the Treasury. Gordon Brown, the Chancellor. is due to announce the results of his comprehensive spending review next month.

Councils will call on the review body, which makes recommendations to the Government on teachers' pay, to make the cut in the profession's holidays in return for a substantial investment in schools

Graham Lane, the Local Government Association's education committee chairman, said: "Teachers need modern

pecially those who are helping raise standards - but they must realise the present system of holidays no longer works."

The proposals will be drawn up at a meeting today of the National Association of Employers of School Teachers.

Councils are not proposing that all the extra money is used to increase teachers' salaries. It would also help to cut class sizes, pay for a classroom assistant in every primary school and employ staff to free teachers from administrative jobs.

Mr Blunkett is understood to conditions and rewards - es- secretary of the National As- is a matter of deep regret that sociation of School Teachers the local government employ-Union of Women Teachers, said: "We are not going to contemplate this kind of thing unless there is a massive pay rise in the region of 50 per cent.

What are we going to do in this five weeks? We are trying to cut bureaucracy and meetings at the moment. Are they going to pay us more to waste our time? I don't think the country can afford to reduce teachers' holidays because noone will come forward for teaching unless they also give teachers a massive pay rise. It ers have not discussed these matters with the representatives of teachers before publishing them in this way." Teachers pointed out that

women who would find it difficult to combine their job with home life if holidays were shortened. The top rate of pay for an unpromoted classroom teacher is around £22,000 and more than

half teachers are at this level or

the profession relies heavily on

Mr Lane said: "If local edu-

BY JOHN DAVISON

AT PRECISELY 4.30 this after-

noon one man will blow a whis-

tle, another will kick a ball and

the world's biggest and most

An estimated 500 million peo-

opening game between cham-

pions Brazil and humble Scot-

land, the first of a record 64. By

the time we get to the final, on

June 12, a staggering four bil-

three quarters of the world's

population, and the biggest au-

From Bogata to Bologna, via

Bedford and Bridlington, cele-

arunk over the next month in every language under the sun

by folk in shirts of every hue.

More than ever before we will

become part of a global village,

glued to the communal tube for

every twist and turn of drama.

Celebrations in Paris actually

started last night, with a carnival

of bizarre and colourful events,

some of which were even officially

planned. Four separate parades

were led by 60-foot high giants, to

symbolise the four footballing

continents, and converged on

the Place de la Concorde. If well-

intentioned, perhaps these Tele-

tubby look alikes were carrying

a message rather too high brow

for most of those watching.

Romeo, for instance, represent-

ing Europe, "lives as an art, a

show, a never-ending celebra-

tion. He is a product of a culture

that, since antiquity, has been wa-

vering between mannerism and

Showing not too much of ei-

Scots fans who were more than

holding their own on the

Champs-Elysées in a very un-

official festival of football, in-

volving fans from most of the

competing nations and which

completely blocked the pave-

ments. If they were feeling

ripped off or impoverished by

the non-arrival of hugely ex-

pensive tickets, the Scots were

not showing it. Perhaps they

were oblivious.

wealth...," and so on.

Planet Football will have come

lience ever.

Government must be prepared wards and better conditions of work for teachers, in return for a modernised contract for emplovees and cutting class sizes. are the main ways we can attract high-quality people into the service and also retain good teachers already working in the profession."

The Government has begun a recruitment drive to attract more people into teaching because applications for teacher

Youths in Lawrence murder w case win legal aid

By KATHY MARKS

FOUR OF the five white youths suspected of murdering Stephen Lawrence in a racist attack have been granted legal aid to fight attempts to drag them before the public inquiry into the black teenager's death.

The five were scheduled to ppear next Monday before the hearing in Elephant and Castle, south London, after a ruling by the inquiry chairman, William Macpherson of Chiny, obliging them to attend.

Lawyers for the youths, who were charged with the murder sbut never convicted, announced three weeks ago that they intended to apply for judi-cial review of Sir William's ruling. Four of them - Neil Acourt. his brother Jamie, Gary Dobson and David Norris - were refused emergency legal aid. But yesterday, the Legal Aid Board announced that its decision had been overturned on appeal.

Neil Acourt and the fifth suspect, Luke Knight, were arrested and charged two weeks after Stephen was stabbed to death in Eitharn, south-east London, in April 1993. Two months later, the Crown Prosecution Service dropped the charges.

In 1995, Stephen's parents Neville and Doreen, brought a private prosecution against all five. The case against Mr Dobson, Mr Knight and Neil Acourt was abandoned at the committal proceedings. At the Crown Court trial in April 1996, Jamie Acourt and Mr Norris were acquitted after they identification evidence was ruled inadmissible.

Lawyers for the youths intend to fight the summons on the grounds that the inquiry has no legal powers to call them, and its own terms of reference are outside the relevant law. The case is expected to be heard in the immediate future.

The Lawrences declined to comment yesterday. Full report, page

And finally... at 4.30 today a man will kick a ball



Scottish football supporters celebrate a goal in a match against all-comers beneath the Eiffel Tower in Paris

European superstate is dead, says Kohl

CHANCELLOR Helmut Kohl and President Jacques Chirac last night declared in a joint letter to Tony Blair that the idea of the European super-state

in the presidency of the European Union, to put closer integration on the agenda for the weekend EU summit in Cardiff, which Mr Blair will be chairing. Chief Political Editor

hectic round of jet diplomacy in

The two leaders said: "It cannot be the goal of European policy to establish a European central state, that is to say, a the need for subsidiarity, al-

We must do all we can ... to preserve and foster the diversity and richness of Europe's political, cultural and regional tra-

spokesman said their letter echoed Mr Blair's speech to the French National Assembly on 3 March calling for a third way in Europe, integrating where it made sense but emphasising

centrally structured Europe. lowing countries to decide their own laws where appropriate. The Government is keen to see closer cooperation on diplomacy and defence over issues

> such as Kosovo. The joint letter urged Mr Blair at the Cardiff summit to order home affairs and justice ministers to draw up a plan of action for the December meet-

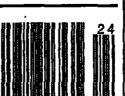
ing in Vienna. That closely fits in with Britain's approach to closer

cooperation across borders on tackling crime. Downing Street said Britain supported closer integration on poliution, the environment,

tackling crime and drugs strug-

The letter was being seen at Downing Street as a "highly significant" step away from a European super-state, which the Euro-sceptics had insisted

was on the agenda. Blair in Europe, page 16



A move by Le Folies Bergere, the Paris cabaret famous for its dancing girls, may possibly provide them with a chance to refor "football widows" during take the television. the competition.

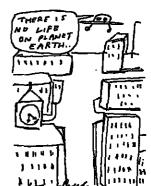
Back home, the country is expected to completely close

down this afternoon as Scotland face their most important and illustrious game in their history. In Britain as a whole, a survey has found that almost one in three men will be taking manic sporting party will be off time off work to watch the tourand running. The planet is nament at home. Monday afabout to go Coup du Monde ternoon when England meet Tunisia in their opening game with a 1.30 kick-off, is expected ple will be watching today's to witness a mass exodus from factories and offices. Some firms are bowing to the inevitable, with Cadbury's in Birmingham piping live radio commentary to its 4,000 staff to lion will be tuned in - that's try and keep as many as possi-

ble at their work.

British brewers are rubbing their hands in anticipation of the alcoholic floodgates opening. Pubs everywhere have finished bolting in the big screens and ordering extra barrels for the the relatively new national pastime of pub football will reach its zenith - fostering with it a kind of rowdy community spirit not seen since VE Day, or at least 1966.

Bookies are also looking forward to a lot of action. Over £150



tition, making it the biggest betting event in bookmaking history. For those who can't even bear ther were the thousands of to tearthemselves away from the TV for a walk down to the local,

Asda alone has already spent £300,000 on extra cans of beer and lager. Meanwhile Customs officers have reported a boom in cross channel traffic for bootleggers, importing a cheaper if illicit alternative.

Even at home, however, you are not safe if you live in the London borough of Brent. The council has hatched a dastardly scheme to try and recoup some of its missing millions of council tax arrears. It has sent out thousands of final demands and sumcoup losses, in Full Monty style. monses, with the threat that The club is putting on a show of if people don't pay then the male strippers in order to cater bailiffs will be sent round – to

Leading article, Review, page 3 Sport, pages 24-32

ditions and characteristics." ing Street last night hailed the The Prime Minister's letter as a diplomatic coup for

was dead. The letter also contained a clear call to the Prime Minister,

But as Mr Blair completed a

HOME NEWS

Lord Archer has

launched a fightback,

saying he is neither

a genius nor a saint

PAGE 2

POLITICS

A senior civil servant

was criticised by MPs

over the arms to

Sierra Leone affair

the capitals of Europe, Downthe Prime Minister's call for a "third way" between federalism

BUSINESS

FOREIGN NEWS A trial in Utah will lift the lid on the state's hidden secret - polygamy

PAGE 17

Thistle Hotels has had several approaches that may lead to a bid

PAGE 18

SPORT

Chelsea have signed French World Cup player Marcel Desailly for £4.6m.

PAGE 32



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HOME NEWS

Woodward trustees reject claim Supporters of Louise Woodward, the British au pair, voted unanimously to continue backing her despite claims her mother had defrauded a fund set up for her defence.

Atom test vets lose legal case A fight for compensation by British nuclear test veter ans ground to halt yesterday, when the European Court of Human Rights threw out their latest legal challenge.

Inquiry over 'fake' documentaryCarlton Television faces a second investigation by the television watchdog over more accusations of faking documentaries - this time on Cuba's Fidel Castro. Page 9

FOREIGN NEWS

Nigeria pledges civilian rule

Nigeria's military government plans to stick to its aim to restore civilian rule on 1 October in accordance with the promise of dead military ruler General Sani Abacha.

India pushes ahead with temple India's most contentious building project, siting a Hindu temple on the site of a destroyed mosque, has been secretly under construction for the past seven years.

BUSINESS NEWS PAGES 18 - 23

Severn Trent in £1.4bn water bid Severn Trent is bidding to take over the water supply for the German city of Berlin later this year. Page 18

Mortgage penalties may end Building societies are to call for the abolition of redemption penalties on all variable rate mortgages.

SPORTS NEWS

Scotland prepare to meet Brazil Scotland manager Colin Hendry leads his country against Brazil in the opening game of World Cup.

Coach takes 'rap' for rugby rout Clive Woodward, the England rugby union coach, has taken responsibility for the 76-0 defeat against Australia.

WEDNESDAY REVIEW

24-PAGE BROADSHEET SECTION

Donald Macintyre

'Lord Cranborne, apparently with the blessing of William Hague, is leading the Tories towards an electoral brick wall over the House of Lords.'

Mick Jagger

'We are very disappointed to have to postpone our British concerts. This was a very difficult decision for us and it is not a tax protest.'

Fashion

Tennis starlets obviously like the attention - although there is no excuse for frilly knickers, on or off the court.

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Cryptic crossword, section one, page 32

Mowlam mole out to wreck peace

By David McKrttrick AND ALAN MURDOCH

THE Government is facing up to the unpalatable fact that an organised campaign of sabo-tage is being waged against its Northern Ireland policy from within the highest levels of its administration in Belfast,

The leaking of yet another sensitive document from within the Northern Ireland Office has left no room for doubt that at least one person with access to secret papers has been systematically feeding them to Unionist sources and hence to the media

The most recent leak took place this week, when the Ulster Unionist MP Jeffrey Donaldson received a document whose disclosure was plainly designed to cause personal embarrassment to Mo Mowlam, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

It showed that she recently held a telephone conversation with a senior Sinn Fein member, Rita O'Hare, on the quesnew commission on the future policing of Northern Ireland. Ms O'Hare lives in the Republic of Ireland since she is wanted for questioning in Northern Ireland about a sniping attack on soldiers in west Belfast in the early 1970s

Mr Donaldson said: "It's a disgrace. One wonders to what and possibly prosecution. extent the Government is prepared to pander to the demands of Sinn Fein and the IRA regarding the future of the RUC. There will be many people who will share my deep concern that the Secretary of State is too strong. The votes in the should consult about the future of the RUC with someone like [show] the strength of the Rita O'Hare who is wanted for questioning by the RUC."

The memo, which sumcommission's membership was

announced, was drawn up by Ms Mowlam's private secretary John McKervill, and circulated only to two ministers and eight senior officials. Marked confidential and dated 4 June, it took only four days to reach Mr Do-

Although a certain amount of leaking took place during the time of Sir Patrick Mayhew, Ms Mowlam's predecessor in Belfast, the trickle has grown into a flow since she took

"My thoughts are that leaks are bad for government," she said yesterday. "It's damaging and we will make every effort we can to find out who is responsible. We are today talking to the police to see if they will consider an investigation on this issue."

Previous leaks have included a key document outlining the Government's approach to last year's marching season and a more recent document setting out its public relations strategy in relation to the referendum on the Good Friday agreement. tion of the membership of the In each case the intention anpears to have been to cause political damage and disruption.

The persistence of the leaks appears to be a sign that one or more people with access to confidential documents is so opposed to the Government's approach that they are prepared to risk ignominious discharge,

Ireland's foreign affairs minister, David Andrews, said: "The leakers are opposed to the peace process and should examine their consciences, whoever they are. But the process recent past, the referendums agreement, and sneaky little people in the Northern Ireland Office are not going to obstruct marised a flurry of diplomatic the pursuit of what we all want and political activity before the to achieve - a permanent peace on the island of Ireland."



Archer replies to allegations in bid to rescue ambitions

LORD ARCHER of Weston-Super-Mare bounced back off the ropes again yesterday, saying he was neither genius nor saint. but he had raised more than \$50 million for charity.

A potential Conservative

candidate for the post of mayor of London, Lord Archer's background has been referred for investigation by the Tories' new ethics and integrity committee - set up by William Hague in order to protect the reputation of the party.

Last night, in the London Evening Standard, Lord Archer replied to charges which had been levelled against him by Paul Foot, the campaigning journalist, on 26 March, headlined by the Standard at the time: "Why this man is unfit to be mayor."

Describing the allegations as "trivialities". Lord Archer said: "Heaven knows I made mistakes in my life. I am neither genius nor saint. But perhaps future profiles might mention that over recent years, I have

raised more than £50 million for charity, never once claiming even my expenses. Just last year, I raised £2m as a charity

Lord Archer accepted that in a democracy anyone seeking public office opened themselves up to "endless attacks some fair some unfair" - but he indicated that he had not vet made his mind up about mayoral office, saying twice: "If I decide to run...

As part of his replies to Mr Foot, Lord Archer said: ■ He never claimed his father had won the Distinguished Conduct Medal until the DCM League had mistakenly in-

formed him that he had. He did not get any A-levels, nor did he mislead Oxford University by telling them that he had, but he was a full member of Brasenose College, and did obtain a full blue in athletics. He did not pass himself off as a research graduate for his had taken up novel-writing, marriage certificate, but the chaplain who had conducted the wedding ceremony must have misunderstood.

Yes, he had mistakenly thought he was the youngest member of the Greater London Council in 1967, and he had helped some councillors with their expense claim forms. "and the sums would have been minuscule".

■ Yes, he had mistakenly claimed that he was the youngest MP in the Commons after he won the Louth byelection in December 1969.

■ It was complete fiction that he systematically fiddled his expenses when fund-raising for the UN Association. He had raised several million pounds for the organisation and there had been an expenses "discrepancy" of around £80.

■ In the early 1970s, he had been "conned" into making a bad investment in a Canadian company, Aquablast. He had refused to become a bankrupt,

and had paid off his creditors over seven years.

He had been totally innocent. of insider dealing over Anglia Television shares; the matter had been investigated by DTI inspectors, and he had not been charged.

■ And he had been awarded £500,000 libel damages over the Monica Coghlan "matter", and had given the money to charity.

Lord Archer also said that he had been stopped in a Toronto store 25 years ago. "I was carrying two suits on their hangers over my shoulder, and was looking for the shirt department... I had no intention of taking anything without paying... and I was not arrested, charged, nor did I admit to any theft because I had not stolen

"I told the store officials who I was and what had happened and the misunderstanding was quickly sorted out. It was hardly a major incident."

Warning over hospital death-rate leagues

tables announced by the Government could lead to topperforming hospitals being swamped with patients. That was the stark warning yesterday by the specialist who has surgery in Bristol following the deaths of 29 children.

Frank Dobson, the Secretary of State for Health, said in a speech last night that the "appalling tragedy" at Bristol could not be allowed to happen again. trust's record had improved

HOSPITAL death-rate league By JEREMY LAURANCE Health Editor

He announced a new duty on trusts to investigate concerns about clinical quality and a new requirement on all doctors taken over children's heart to take part in a national audit programme which would involve checks on their individual performance.

Mr Ash Pawade, paediatric heart surgeon at the United Bristol Hospital Trust, said the

dramatically since the two surgeons, James Wisheart and Janardan Dhasmana, who are currently the subject of a General Medical Council inquiry, stopped operating on children

Latest figures showed a mortality rate of 3.5 per cent for congenital children's heart other centres," he said. surgery at Bristol between April 1996 and March 1997, compared to a national average of 6.1 per cent.

these type of figures. But it is difficult to see how the NHS will cope with the movement that the league tables will bring about. Certain units that do well will obviously be in greater demand and people will want to be treated at them instead of at

Mr Dobson yesterday launched a 10-year programme of will be required to take part in measures to improve clinical in monitoring their performance formation which he said was and comparing it with nation-"I think it is right that the necessary to safeguard pa- al averages.

public should be able to see tients and restore public confi-

Hospital league tables to be published in October will include death rates after heart of post-operative complications.

Other measures of clinical quality will be developed for each specialty and all doctors

"Bristol shows that it is not enough merely for individual clinicians to know their comparative figures," Mr Dobson added. "To ensure that results attack and after fractured neck from audit feed into action, inof femur (broken hip), and rates dividual doctors will be required to share their results confidentially with the medical director of the trust ..

"The net result will be that patients will be assured that services at their local hospital are being monitored and are of a consistently high standard."

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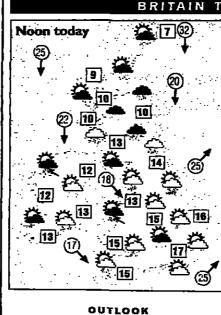
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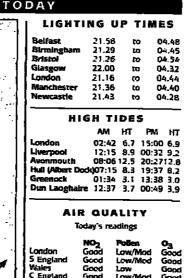


Cold and windy across Scotland with a wet day in the

east. Western Scotland will be showery and this mix of sun and showers will spread east for the afternoon, and the showers will be heavy with the risk of hail. The remainder of the UK will have a rather cool day with a nixture of summy spells and showers. Many of the showers will be heavy and possibly thundery, the showers merging at times in Northern Ireland and northern England into longer spells of rain.

NEXT FEW DAYS

Cool everywhere on Thursday and very showery in south-east England but elsewhere there will be more in the way of sunshine between the showers. Rain in the west later on Friday but plenty of morning sunshine which will last through the day in the east with the rain not arriving until nightfall. It will remain cool over the coming weekend with the risk of showers in all parts but there will also be some spells of sunshine.



WEATHERLINE

04.45 04.54 04.32 Belfast

AIR QUALITY

ATLANTIC CHART, NOON TODAY

Has Geoffrey Robinson's Tuscan villa broken the rules of the House?

BY FRAN ABRAMS. NIC CICUTTI AND ANNE HANLEY in San Gimignano

GEOFFREY ROBINSON, the Paymaster-General is facing a formal complaint that he broke parliamentary rules over a villa, former monastery and farmland in Tuscany.

The property is owned by two companies controlled by Mr Robinson, which have not been registered in the Commons Register of Mem-

Francis Maude, the Shadow Chancellor, has written to Sir Gordon Downey, the parliamentary commissioner for standards, to ask for an investigation. His letter, to be delivered today, could spark the fourth investigation into Mr Robinson's affairs since he took office last May.

According to company records held in Siena, Italy, Mr Robinson first bought the property in 1992. It consists of his holiday home, Villa Mucchio - visited for the last two summers by Tony Blair and his family - a disused monastery which is being renovated, a church and around 140 acres of farmland

The property is held in two companies: Castelli Mucchio - Villa Robinson Geoffrey, and Borgo Mucchio Di Sotto Sal. It was bought for around £330,000 but is now believed to be worth around £1.5m.

Sir Gordon has already completed an investigation into Mr Robinson's involvement with an offshore trust and with shares in Coventry City Football Club. Mr Robinson was told by Sir Gordon that his interest would have been better registered. He is still looking into two more claims that Mr Robinson failed to declare directorships.

Mr Maude's letter questions whether the Paymaster-General has broken parliamentary rules by failing to declare relevant pecuniary interests. "I do not wish to distract you from your two existing investigation into Mr Robinson. However, in view of what is at first sight a clear breach of a rule to which great importance has been attached in recent years, I must ask you to investigate this as a matter of urgency," he wrote.

The guide that governs what members they should put on the register, says that any land or property which has a substantial value should be listed. Although second homes do residences are registrable because they have "a substantial value aside from the residential use".

should also be registered if they are worth more than £25,000 or if they amount to more than 1 per cent of the share capital. Members must list "interests in shareholdings held by the member either personally or with or on behalf of the member's spouse or dependent children".

An earlier complaint from Nigel Evans, Conservative MP for Ribble Valley, asked if Mr Robinson should have registered income he received from the farmland on the estate.

Last night, Mr Robinson said: "In response to a letter from Nigel Evans MP last August Sir Gordon Downey considered the issue of de-



claration of Villa Mucchio and Borgo Mucchio. He concluded that there was no breach of the rules relating to registration."

Yesterday, the sensor at the end of Geoffrey Robinson's drive was playing up, and the tall iron gate swung forlornly open at intervals. It was the only flaw in this picture of perfection in the Tuscan countryside. A white road leads up through cypresses and pines to an open space where a dolphin-adorned fountain plays. ("He brought it from England," one would import statuary to Italy.)

On a rise to the left is a stone

chapel, recently reconsecrated, and Shareholdings in companies used by the Robinson family, according to local lore. Behind it is a huddle of buildings - a former monastery-all is quiet, but the paraphernalia of renovation work is strewn all around. Ahead is a sweep of idyllic landscape. To the right is Mr Robinson's Tuscan bolt-hole, Il Mucchio - "Pile" as in the common Italian expression un mucchio di soldi, heaps of money. It nestles in the hills, near San Girnignano, which with its 13 towers is popular with the British chattering classes

According to Mr Robinson, it was his wife, Marie Elena, who first thought of buying more than the villa almost seven years ago. "My wife



said if you buy that Italian villa you must buy the Borgo as well. I couldn't see what she wanted with a whole village. But I love it now. We've had the chapel redecorated and reconsecrated. It's very pretty," he told

The Blairs have holidayed there twice last year and the year before. Mr Blair fell in love with the surroundings: "Tuscany? I love it, there's so much history culture, the weather's great, and I like the wine.

It's fantastic," he told the Italian newspaper La Nazione, in 1996.

The late 18th- or early 19th-century villa was built and owned by the Pompedoni counts, and has gardens of about nine acres. To one side of the villa is a 45ft swimming pool. In the summer, meals are cooked by Mr Robinson's Galician chef and served under giant umbrellas on a patio. Diners can look out on to a valley of olive trees leading to San Gimignano.

The entire property, bought in



The approach (top) to the Villa Mucchio (left), near San Gimignano, owned by Geoffrey Robinson (above), at the centre of a complaint over the breaking of parliamentary rules

lieved to be worth around £1.5m. inchides about 140 acres of farm land. This is let out rent free to a local business, run by brothers from a nearby town, which uses it to grow wheat and sunflowers.

Records in Siena show that the villa is owned by a company, Castelli Mucchio - Villa Robinson Geoffrey EC-SAS. The joint shareholders are Mr Robinson, with 19.8 million shares and his daughter Veronique,

1992 for about £330,000 but now be- who holds 200,000 shares. Borgo Mucchio Di Sotto SRL, a second company also set up in July1992, owns the monastery and surrounding farmland; Mr Robinson is listed as the sole administrator of this com-

> The restoration work on the Borgo Sotto monastery has been going on for around 12 months or so. It is believed that it is being converted into about seven or eight flats.

Here's to you Mr Robinson ...

Born: Geoffrey Robinson, May 25, 1938, Sheffield. Married: 1967, to Marie Elena Giorgio, a Maltese-born opera singer Career: Financial controller.

British Leyland, 1971-72. Managing director Leyland Innocenti, Milan, 1972-3. MD and chief executive, Jaguar Cars, 1973-75. Labour MP for Coventry North West, since1976. May 1997 appointed Paymaster General, refused to accept ministerial salary Fortune: Believed to be around £30 million. Owns: The New Statesman magazine, Stenbell Ltd. administrative services. TransTec PLC, specialist engineers. Shares held in trust since May 1997 Discretionary beneficiary with other family members of the Guernsey-based Orion Trust, worth at least £12 million. **Properties: Two Lutyens**

bouses, Orchards in Surrey and Marsh Court in Hampshire. London flat in the grounds of the Grosvenor Hotel, overlooking Hyde Park. Flat in Cannes, estate in Tuscany.

Children: Veronique, 27, an accountant, and Alexander, 19. Interests: Architecture . gardens and cars. Gave up his chauffeur-driven Daimlers for a ministerial Rover to avoid seeming grander than the Chancellor, Gordon Brown

when completed the converted monastery will be used by "visiting

The company that bought the monastery is allowed under its various aims and objects to engage in the "running of tourist accommodation and agri-tourist accommodation". It seems unlikely, however, that someone of Mr Robinson's wealth would want to turn the development into a commercial operation. An Irish architect is supervising the restoration of the monastery.

white mansion built at the end of the 18th century. So well buried is it down a long dirt track and in its coppice of trees, that even near neighbours - and near is a relative concept in such an isolated spot - are dubious about its whereabouts.

Until, that is, you mention Tony Blair. Then, local youths will tear themselves away from afternoon soaks in bars and enthusiastically provide detailed directions. The Prime Minister's visit brought an army of curious Britons and Italians to the town.

"One man, an Italian, came with his little boy. He was desperate to show his son where Blair stayed," said the woman on the hotel desk. "He seemed to think it was an his-

MacKenzie teams up with Murdoch again for radio venture

KELVIN MACKENZIE, the infamous BY PAUL MCCANN former Sun editor, has teamed up with his old proprietor, Rupert Murdoch, in his bid for the commercial radio station, Talk Radio.

News International, publisher of the Sun, the Times, the News of the World and the Sunday Times, confirmed yesterday that is to be a 20 per cent stakeholder in the consorfium being put together by Mr

Media Correspondent

MacKenzie. The deal re-unites Mr MacKenzie with the Australian-born media mogul after four years at rival Mirror Group Newspapers. It is thought Mr Murdoch agreed to support Mr MacKenzie's bid for the radio station in order to lure him out of control of the Mirror. For the last

seen a revamp of the Mirror and is widely agreed to have improved the newspaper. Despite Mr Murdoch's Sun outselling the Mirror the Murdoch newspaper is losing sales faster and last week changed editors to try to imitate what Mr MacKenzie has achieved at the Mirror. It is thought Mr Murdoch of-

fered Mr MacKenzie the post of ed-

six months Mr MacKenzie has over- itor in chief of the Sun and the News was boosted by the revelation yesof the World but the former editor terday that his other consortium

wanted to run his own business. Under present cross-media ownership regulations, News International could own 20 per cent of Talk

Radio without triggering an inves-tigation by the Radio Authority. The MacKenzie bid for Talk

partner is an investment house investment vehicle, MVI, which al-

ready owns 24 per cent of the station. Mr MacKenzie departed the Sun in 1994 to become managing director of Mr Murdoch's satellite broadcaster BSkyB. However he left there Radio, home to broadcasters like to join Mirror Group's Live TV five Lorraine Kelly and Kirsty Young, months later after losing a power

battle with BSkyB's chief executive, Sam Chisholm. However, in his time at Mirror Group Mr MacKenzie maintained good relations with Mr Murdoch.

Mr MacKenzie's conduct in creating a consortium, which includes a rival newspaper group, while deputy chief executive of Mirror Group raised eyebrows in the City

station emerged yesterday in the form of the station's management, led by Talk's managing director Paul Robinson who said that Mr MacKenzie lacked the experience to run a national radio station. However, he did concede that he would be willing to discuss a deal with the MacKenzie consortium.

Business, page 19

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End of the road for AUG 1

Transport Correspondent

ST **VIIR** lewo 9.30

The 7pm

CARS WILL be identified by town and region under plans for a new number plate system announced by the Government today. The new-look vehicle registration will see two number changes a year - to avoid the summer sales rush which the motor industry says disrupts car production.

There will also be a regional identifier of two characters - one representing a region of Britain, the other referring to a town - which will show where a car has been purchased. This is similar to the original system used before the second world war, when each county in Britain had an allocation of two-letter combinations.

The revamp will start in September 2001 - the biggest shake-up since 1963 - and ministers hope it will end the August dash by customers eager to drive off with a brand new car. More than half a million cars nearly a quarter of the annual total - are sold in this one month, distorting carmakers' production schedules and causing chaos for dealers.

As an interim measure, the yearly change will be abandoned this year - meaning that motorists purchasing cars in March next year will have "T" plates and those buying in August 1999 will drive off in "V" registration vehicles.

Some will miss the social cachet derived from having the very latest registration plate. Drivers often put off trading up to a better model or marque simply to have the new number plate. Although registrations indicating the year of purchase were first introduced on 1 January 1963, it was not until four years later when the start of the new car year was moved to 1 August that sales took off.

This was the beginning of the one-upmanship which now characterises the change of plate. Those with E plates in 1967 were outdone by those with the new August F plates and the tradition became embedded in motoring lore.

However the industry was not so pleased. Although happy



The usual rush for new number plates will end under proposals to begin in September 2001

Dylan Martinez

to sell cars - the best-ever Au- tem has been a complete many dealers let cars go "withgust sales were achieved in 1997 when a bumper 525,539 cars were purchased - motor manufacturers say this could be more evenly spread throughout ic about delivery dates." the year without harming cur-

"We are very pleased to see the back of the current system. A change has been long overdue," said a spokesman for the Retail Motor Industry Federation, the trade association for dealerships. "The August sys-

headache and a classic way of how not to do things. Car buyers will benefit from the change as dealers will be more specif-A source close to Gavin

Strang, the transport minister who will launch the Government's plans, said that the new system would last for "at least 40 years".

Motoring organisations welcomed the moves saying that in the rush to satisfy demand ter moved to the front of the

out proper preparation". "We get dozens of calls for new cars in early August because cars leave forecourts without being fully roadworthy," said the RAC.

The system began with the letter A being placed after the numbers on a registration plate, so that cars registered in 1963 would have plates such as

Once the alphabet was exhausted, the year-indicator let-

plate, which would read, say, A123 BCD, This year will see the prefix letter S introduced.

By 2001, a typical number plate will look like this: ABC 12 YZ. The first three letters are specific to the car, the next two numbers will refer to the year the car was bought and the last two characters will denote the place of purchase.

The Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency will still sell much sought-after plates such as ME 1 ME and YOU 1 DO to For example, many cars regis- in Portsmouth.

their number plates. At present, such sales generate millions.

Some experts were predicting yesterday some number plates would become highlyprized for the status a registration number denoting a fashionable part of Britain would confer.

Police in Britain are keen to see such a system, because it would help trace stolen cars. Regional plates are not new.

drivers who wish to personalise tered in Birmingham still have an "O" in the middle of the three letters on a plate. However because of the way new cars

are distributed, the registration

number no longer automati-

cally relates to the place they

are purchased. Another problem is that not all cities and towns have one code that is unique to them. For instance, "PO" is just one of many combinations of letters that show a car was registered

Billie-Jo's carers tell of prowler threat

BY LOUISE JURY

THE FOSTER family of teenage er Billie-Jo Jenkins was living in fear of a prowler at the time of her death, a court heard

yesterday. They had decided to move home because they felt they were being watched, Peter Gaimster, a family friend told Lewes Crown Court, Sussex

Billie-Jo Jenkins, 13, was found savagely beaten around the head on the patio of her foster family's home in Hastings, East Sussex, in February last year. Sion Jenkins, 40, her foster father, is accused of her murder, based on forensic evidence such as microscopic blood spots on his clothes. He denies her murder.

Yesterday the court was read Peter Gaimster's statement, taken last year, in which he described a dinner party at the Jenkins' home a week before Billie-Jo's death. At the dinner Sion Jenkins discussed how a prowler might have got around the back of the house and showed Mr Gaimster extra security lighting that had been

fitted outside. The defendant told his friend that his car had been vandalised, the family had received "strange" telephone calls and they had "had enough". They intended to move house. "It was obvious they were worried. They felt sure they were being watched," Mr Gaimster said.

Under cross-examination by Anthony Scrivener QC, the court heard Mr Gaimster believed Billie-Jo had done well with the Jenkins family in the five years since she was fostered from her natural family in the East End of London.

Dc Tracey Christmas, a police officer who looked after the family the evening of the killing, said an "odd" incident occurred that night. As Sion Jenkins went to leave the home of a neighbour who was looking after the family, he refused to wear his blue fleece jacket.

"I just felt it was a little odd because I was extremely cold and had been most of the evening," Dc Christmas said.

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Detectives 'should have sued Lawrence family'

By Kathy Marks

THE former third highest-ranking officer in the Metropolitan Police said yesterday that he believed detectives should have sued Stephen Lawrence's father, Neville, for accusing them of racism.

The public inquiry also heard that former Deputy Assistant Commissioner David Osland wrote a memo to the Commissioner, Sir Paul Condon, five months after Stephen was murdered, in which he said that his patience with the Lawrence family was "wearing

Mr Osland, who has since retired and is now a Conservative councillor, was in charge of policing in south-east London in April 1993 when Stephen was stabbed to death by a white gang in the suburb of Eltham.

Yesterday Stephen Kamlish, counsel for the Lawrences, accused him of insensitivity in his public pronouncements on the murder investigation. He also senior officer who has appeared before the inquiry, Mr Osland did not know the legal grounds on which suspects can be arrested.

Mr Kamlish referred to an interview that Mr Osland gave last December to the Croydon Advertiser, a local newspaper, after publication of a Police Complaints Authority report. The report said no evidence was found to support claims by Mr Lawrence and his wife, Doreen, that the investigation had been hampered by racism. In the interview, Mr Osland

said he was disappointed that Mr Lawrence had since repeated the allegation. "My advice to the officers concerned would be to consider legal action," he said. "The Lawrences seem happy to accept the findings of the report where it suits them, but not where it doesn't."

Asked to elaborate yesterday, he said: "There comes a time when enough is enough. The officers referred to by Mr



suggested that, like another Doreen and Neville Lawrence, who was criticised

Lawrence are identifiable. How long does it go on, was my view, how long do we have to suffer these allegations of racism?"

To jeers from a packed pub-lic gallery, he added: "I know that these officers have become quite ill as a result of these allegations. There comes a time when you want to move on, and maybe one way of sorting things out finally would be to take action against Mr

Mr Osland, whose comments prompted Mr Lawrence to leave the inquiry chamber,

was also asked about his memo to Sir Paul Condon in September 1993. In it, he wrote: "Our patience is wearing thin on 3 Area (south-east London), not only with the Lawrence family and their representatives, but also with self-appointed public

and media commentators." Mr Kamlish asked him: "With these grieving parents, whose son had been killed five months earlier, your patience was wearing so thin that you thought you had better tell the Commissioner that?"

Mr Osland replied: "State-

KEN LIVINGSTONE

Gordon Brown's economic misjudgements are the major factor threatening Labour's second term of office

THE WEDNESDAY REVIEW PAGE 5

ments were being made by the Lawrence family and their representatives which in our opinion were not helpful."

MI

He rejected Mr Kamlish's claim that he was not aware that police needed only reasonable suspicion - and not evidence - in order to arrest suspects. But Mr Osland, who has a law degree, agreed that he had expressed the view that detectives did not have "sufficient evidence" to make ar-

The inquiry heard that when Mr Osland was questioned by Kent police officers on behalf of the PCA, he said he believed that the arrests of the five prime suspects two weeks after the murder were "premature". Senior detectives now say that they could have arrested the youths within 48 hours and wish they had done so. The five were never convicted.

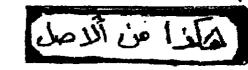
Mr Osland told Kent officers that it would have been "tenable" never to have arrested them. He said: "I felt it was not the role of police to give in to public pressure and adopt a different set of criteria because the murder happened to

The inquiry team yesterday asked the Metropolitan Police for a copy of an unpublished report that concluded that black men were more than four times more likely than whites to be stopped and searched in the street by police.

Mr Kamlish questioned the police about an article that appeared in The Independent on Monday, outlining the conclusions and recommendations of the report. He said that the figures appeared to be "a matter of concern".

Last weekend, Scotland Yard indicated that there were no plans to publish the report, which was completed more than a year ago. However, yesterday a spokesman said a final draft was now being prepared and it would be published within a few weeks

The inquiry continues today.



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Woodward case: Trustees of defence fund vote to continue backing in face of lawyer's claims of fraud by mother



Sue Woodward (above) and (top right) Louise with Elaine Whitfield Sharp - before they fell out Dan Chung



Louise supporters reject fraud claim

SUPPORTERS OF Louise Woodward, the British au pair convicted in Boston last year of killing the baby in her care, voted unanimously to continue backing her yesterday despite claims that her mother, Susan, had defrauded a trust fund set up for her defence.

Meeting in the village of Elton, home-base to the British support-Louise effort, trustees of the fund chose to discount the illegations. They were made on Monday by Daniel Sharp, the husband of Elaine Whitfield Sharp, who last week was sacked from the Woodward defence team.

Yesterday, Mr Sharp reiterated his charge that Susan Woodward forged an invoice last autumn to obtain \$15,400 (£9,500) from the fund. He alleges that while money was ostensibly drawn to repay him and his wife for housing Woodward and her family during the appeals process it was in fact pocketed by the family.

The invoice brouhaha is just the latest in a string of public relations set-backs for Woodward. After months out of the headlines, she has suddenly found herself the object of renewed scrutiny, because of

what appears to have been a bitter falling out with the Sharps, whose home she left in early March.

Woodward, believed to be living now with friends in Boston, is all the while living in wrenching suspense. Her passport still confiscated, the 20year-old awaits a decision from the seven-judge Supreme Judicial Court in Boston, which has been pondering her fate since an appeal hearing on 6 March.

Chairman of the Elton fund, the Rev Ken Davey, said yesterday: "The trustees of the appeal fund unanimously decided to continue supporting Louise Woodward and her parents. We always considered the Woodward parents to be honest and straightforward and that opinion has not changed." The statement did not answer the central point: whether the invoice was believed to be a fake or not and Mr Davey refused requests to clarify the matter. It was Mr Davey who released the invoice to the media in an attempt to prove that the Whitfield Sharps had charged Sue and Louise Woodward.

But Mr Sharp vesterday again suggested that Susan Woodward had "swiped some of our letterheads" to make the forged living-expenses invoice. Denying that he or his wife had any enmity against Woodward, Mr Sharp went on: "What that amounts to is that money that should have been used to defend Louise Woodward was used by the Woodwards personally. I don't think that that's what the little old ladies were giving their money for. We never gave them an invoice,

Mr Sharp accused the trustees of failing to answer the central question: "They don't deny the invoices are phoney, they don't deny that is Susan Woodward's handwriting. My message to the trustees is simple, put up or shut up. They should get into the substance of the allegations."

they lived here for free, Susan

lived here for free."

Susan Woodward yesterday refused to make any comment apart from saying she endorsed everything said by Mr Davey, and her local MP Andrew Miller, who had spoken up in her support

The split between Woodward and the Sharos became announced before 6 July

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public two weeks ago after Ms Whitfield Sharp, who is Britishborn, was arrested outside Boston for drunken driving. The arresting officer said in his official report that she told him she was distraught because she had come to doubt Woodward's innocence in the death of 9-month-old Matthew Eappen. Days later, reports surfaced of comments made by Ms Whitfield Sharp over the phone to an anonymous friend, purportedly describing Woodward as a "duplicitous monster".

parts

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The other members of Woodward's defence team announced last week that Ms Whitfield Sharp was being removed from the case.

After being convicted last October of second-degree murder and sentenced to life, Woodward was subsequently released on time served by Judge Hiller Zobel who reduced the verdict to manslaughter. It is that decision the Superior Court is now weighing.

The Court's options include upholding Judge Zobel's ruling, ordering a resentencing or a retrial, or reinstating the original verdict and sentence. The ruling will probably be

have Court reforms aim to mily' protect rape victims

banned from cross examining their alleged victim in most court cases, under plans to reform the treatment of vulnerable or intimidated witnesses. One-way mirrors which will

allow alleged offenders, such as rapists and paedophiles, to see their victims in court are also expected to be recommended. In a third reform, judges may

Secretary and the

be given powers to ban the publication of details of vulnerable witnesses which could lead to their identification.

The measures, which are due to be published today, are among a package of radical proposals to reform the way witnesses, particularly children, the disabled and victims of sexual assault, are dealt with by the criminal justice system.

The report also confirms changes announced by Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, to encourage more rape victims to give evidence. These include banning alleged rapists from cross examining their victims

SUSPECTED STALKERS will be BY JASON BENNETTO Crime Correspondent

> and not allowing a woman's sexual history to be read out in court except in exceptional circumstances.

The 78 recommendations contained in the review by the Interdepartmental Working Group will form the basis of changes to the law and court The report, Speaking Up For

Justice, is expected to propose a major shake up of how witnesses are treated in future court cases. This follows concern that while the number of reported sex offences are increasing, the proportion of people being prosecuted is declining. This is thought to be linked to the traumatic experiences of some alleged victims who have faced hours of cross examination by their suspected

In an unexpected move, people accused of stalking - an in-

will also face restrictions on not see the person being queswho they can question. The regiving judges new powers to ban cross examinations by the al-

leged offender. On the question of shielding witnesses who may feel intimidated by their alleged assailant, the report is expected to propose allowing greater use of evidence given on video. The use of one way screens will also be suggested as a method of ensuring the defendant can see their accuser - considered an important legal principle - while

screening the witness. One of the more controversial proposals is expected to be giving courts new powers to restrict Strangeways in Manchester, the publication of details that will test the system, which will might identify witnesses considered vulnerable. This could outlaw almost all references to the background of a witness.

Other recommendations expected in today's report are: Re-locating the witness box in exceptional cases so that egory A inmates through city creasingly common offence - people in the public gallery can- streets.

tioned. port is expected to recommend Providing pagers to some witnesses who will be allowed to wait outside the court building and be called only when needed to give evidence. This would prevent witnesses coming into unnecessary contact with the defendant or their supporters. Providing legal aid for any alleged rapist to pay for a barrister to cross examine the alleged

> television links from jails will begin in the autumn, the Home Office confirmed yesterday. Two prisons, Bristol and

A pilot scheme allowing pris-

oners to appear in court on live

be extended across the country if it is a success. The TV links will cut the cost of transporting prisoners to and from court for routine remand and bail hearings, and reduce the risk of taking dangerous Cat-

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Screen challenge to Microsoft A TINY American software By CHARLES ARTHUR company has come up with a

way to push Bill Gates's omnipresent Microsoft off computer screens - by filling up the centimetre deep black space below the lit screen with its own "control bar". Pixel Corporation, based in

Seattle, reckons that the tiny area could be the perfect wedge to break up Microsoft's growing control of what users see when they turn on a new PC. Presently, Microsoft bars

computer manufacturers from altering the "opening screen" of) its Windows operating system, the standard on most PCs. The software giant can thus sell off its screen real-estate to the highest hidder, or to its own subhighest hidder, or to its own suc-sidiaries. But this leaves PC slightly upwards to allow the saw a televised sports event and the consumer," he said.

Science & Technology Editor

makers unable to distinguish their products. Those tactics led directly to the recent lawsuits filed against Microsoft by the US government and a number

the end be more successful a bar that is inserted by software underneath the standard Windows95 control strip at the bottom of the screen.

However, Pixel's attack is more subtle, and may in Called MySpace, it consists of

It is squeezed in by using the black "overscan" space that surrounds every screen. My Space reclaims that area, and

user access to 54 applications, pushed up to make room for a documents or Internet sites. Companies wanting to gain visibility have been quick to

out dealing with Microsoft. tion, the online bookseller Amaprovide content for the slots on its interface bar, which will be included on new PCs in the US this month from Packard Bell for Microsoft, said company and NEC.

Tom O'Rourke, chief execucreated in a spin-off from Packard Bell, said he came up

scoreboard at the bottom of the screen. "It's a pretty simple idea, and most good ideas are recognise that this means they simple," he said.

outld set onto PC screens with-

could bolster Microsoft's posi-Pixel already has deals signed tion that computer manufacwith the Walt Disney Corpora- turers have the flexibility to customise their machines and zon.com and others, all keen to make independent deals with content providers and other software companies. Mark Murray, a spokesman

executives had not yet seen the technology However, he did tive officer of Pixel, which was not seem enthusiastic. "It sounds like much of what Pixel is doing duplicates capabilities with the idea of exploiting the that Microsoft already provides unused space last year when he to the computer manufacturer

MPs condemn plan to protect pits

the coal industry by blocking further gas-fired power stations were at-tacked yesterday by a Labourdominated committee of MPs.

In a hard-hitting report criticising the Government's lack of an energy policy, the Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee said there was no case for imposing a ban on grounds of either security or diversity of supply. It also called on ministers to plan for Britain's future energy requirements on the as-

sumption that there may be a need for further nuclear power stations over the next 20 years.

The timing of the report is an embarrassment for the Government, coming as it does as the President of the Board of Trade, Margaret Beckett, and the Paymaster General. Geoffrey Robinson, prepare to announce a rescue plan for the pits following a six-month energy review. The package is likely to involve a

planning consents for gas-fired stations and new agreements between the electricity generators and the coal industry to guarantee a market of about 25 tons of coal a year. Controversially, ministers are also considering blocking the construction. of some gas stations which already have planning consent but which still

require approval to burn gas. The plans have already come velopers for jeopardising job creation added its voice, saying there was no danger of Britain becoming over-dependent on high-priced imported gas, as the Energy Minister John Battle has suggested.

"There are no reasons in terms of confidence in long-term availability, to resist the growing use of gas," the report says. "Nor is the resultant decrease in diversity over the next ten to fifteen years a dramatunder attack from power station de- ic one: UK energy supply would still be considerably more diverse than

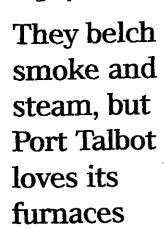
The committee, chaired by the senior Labour backbencher Martin O'Neil also criticised the way the Government let so much time pass last year without undertaking its energy review, creating uncertainty for

the coal and offshore gas industries. John Redwood, the Conservative spokesman on trade and industry, backed the MPs call for an end to the moratorium, adding: "The Trade and Industry Select Committee is right to slate the Government for its failure to deliver an energy policy, for its failure open up energy markets and for the sidelining of the DTL"

The coal rescue package being prepared by ministers is designed to prevent about half the ten pit closures that would otherwise take place following the end of long-term

contracts with the generators. The committee said there was a "sustainable case" for a policy which safeguarded an indigenous deep-

also suggested there was a role for nuclear power. Despite the unfavourable economic climate and the major effort that would be required to turn around public opinion, the question of new nuclear power stations "cannot and must not be ducked any longer", says the report.
"We recommend that a formal presumption be made now for the purposes of long-term planning that new nuclear plant may be required in the course of the next two decades."



BY PAUL VALLELY

OUT of the mist and the rain a labyrinth of pipes appears. Massive cooling towers can be seen fleetingly through the swirling cloud. Chimneys belch great clouds of steam which mingle with the sea-fret and envelope the furnaces and distillation towers with their surreal spiral staircases. Welcome to Port Talbot.

Leaving behind what the PR hand-outs have told you is one of the most efficient steelproducing plants in Europe, you head for the windswept promenade where white waves crash, heavy laden with muddy sand, into the black rocks. Menacingly through the great fog. in the distance, white and orange lights seem to blink where the flare stacks rise from the serpentine coils of the British Petroleum plant at Baglan Bay.

This is, however, an outsider's view. The folk in the pubs and clubs of the little Welsh town tell a different story.

It is not simply about jobs and security, though it is true there is outrage at reports that development of an energy park which promised 3,000 jobs on the largest single new site in the a million square feet - big enough for a car assembly

modern Britain, Sitting in the housing estate. The civil ser-

one who hasn't cause to be it lends to local groups. thankful to BP," he begins.

There is nothing of the obsequiousness of the employee about this. His drinking companions are a social worker, a the Government is to block the police inspector and a civil ser- and father, and son have all vant. They all endorse his view.

The policeman talks approvingly about BP's road safety team, which tours local use by children. The social vant praises BP's Helping Hand which, among other tells part of the story. "In this new local clubs and even has

If it sounds like good oldfashioned paternalism, that sense is only reinforced when Terry Harvey, the club manager, whose grandfather, mother worked for the firm, recalls the good old days when, on wet Bonfire Nights, the company

would sent employees out with schools with a car adapted for paraffin sheets to set the fires ablaze. "When I was a boy we past? Adrian Jenkins insists not. He is director of development at Neath Port Talbot Borough Council. "They have been bours. They're not looked at as

firm. And it has continued when they started to downsize."

BP shut its crude oil refinery at Llandarcy in 1987. That used oil from the Middle East and the company found the plant was unable to compete with oil from the North Sea. It sparked off a domino effect in the manufacture of secondary oil products which has continued ever since.

The workforce on BP's two sites was more than halved. force down to the present 310.

"BP did not just walk away," says Adrian Jenkins. It spent tually grew, employing nearly

800 people in everything from complete closure pext year and Tory dash-for-gas policy, in five laser technology to insurance broking. Then it set up a scheme to offer cheap unsecured loans for small businesses locally. When the last tranche of jobs went it helped its redundant staff to set up their own businesses - not one of which has since failed - and helped all but 10 of the others

The BP plant at Port Talbot, south Wales, where there is outrage at reports that government energy policy may lead to the company's job-creating proposals being blocked

to find a new job. "It's part of our corporate convince the local people of our

no new investment is planned at Baglan Bay, so it too may close within the next decade. BP's solution was to turn the adjacent land into an "energy park" where businesses would be attracted by electricity at a 30 per cent discount, provided by an updated gas-fired version of its site's power station. A commercial producer would build it with the inducement

sold to the national grid. the go-ahead there would be 15 iar proposals. We'd be senyears we'd be 90 per cent dependent upon gas. And when North Sea oil runs out we'd be at the mercy of people like Turkey and Tajikistan." All of which puts the Welsh industry minister. Peter Hain.

in a difficult position. Many of

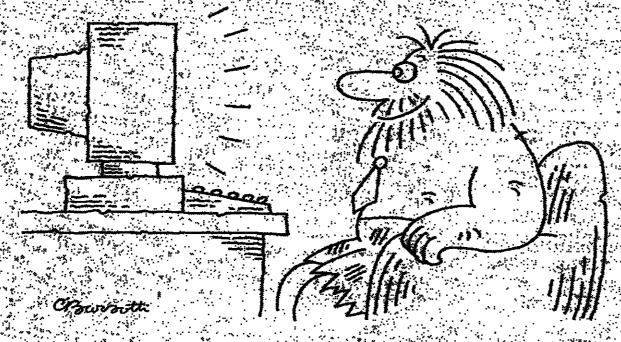
his constituents work at Bagian. But others have jobs in the rump of the mining industry. "I want to see the energy Either they go for a smaller power station which mainly supplies the energy park and doesn't put so much into the na-

They are unimpressed in

executive of the local authority insists a coal-fired station is unacceptable. "The environmental impact would be too great." As to a smaller gas-fired plant, BP insists that it wouldn't produce power cheap enough to induce firms to move. "If the Government won't back our proposal," says Ken Allison, "then they need to think about some other inducement - enterprise zone status or full de-

One thing is sure, says Ver non Griffiths, 75, who worked for BP for 39 years, as he rises to leave the club: "We're the relics of the good days. You don't get dustry. You won't see another firm like them round here

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No damages for N-bomb 'guinea pigs'

By JOHN DAVISON

A FIGHT for compensation by British nuclear test veterans ground to halt yesterday when the European Court of Human Rights threw out their latest iegai chailenge.

A split decision by nine European judges to reject two test-case actions means the campaign has nowhere obvious left to go. Some veterans say this is effectively the end, while others vow to fight on.

The two men involved in the action have consistently and the children I feel really claimed that their lives were ruined by being forced to witness nuclear tests at Christmas Island in the Pacific in 1957, and that they were used as human guinea pigs. They had been hoping for compensation of up to £100,000

Edward Egan, 59, from Glasow and Ken McGinley, from Paisley, were granted leave to take the Ministry of Defence to the Strasbourg court last year, claiming that the government had covered up vital documents which could have won them earlier compensation or a war pension. The veterans' full case has never been tested in the British courts, largely because of a lack of available

Yesterday Mr Egan said he

would probably mark the end of else. I remember seeing the of his suffering. "It is not only the end of the road for me, it is the end of the road for the thousands of other people who were hoping that this would set a precedent," he said, speaking from home. He was too ill to travel to Strasbourg for yes-

terday's court hearing. "If there was another place to take the case I would take it on further, but I don't think there is anywhere to go after this," he said. "It's the widows

Mr Egan and Mr McGinley were among about 22,000 British servicemen and 1,000 civilians who witnessed nuclear explosions in the South Pacific and Australia. At Christmas Island, where a total of six bombs were detonated, they say the servicemen were ordered to line up in the open, with no protection against the blast, which was only about 20

"I was in hospital at the time, and they brought me out and told me to sit on the deck of the ship. I had no warning. I was just told I was going on an expedition and I would never see anything else like it in my life," said Mr Egan, who was then an 18-year-old naval rating. "That was certainly true. I've was "bitterly disappointed" by never seen anything like it, the decision, adding that it and I wouldn't wish it on anyone

his 38-year fight for recognition blast every day, you couldn't

the radiation had caused him a multitude of health problems, ranging from osteoporosis in his hips and back, the loss of a daughter and granddaughter have been affected as well,"

He is chairman of the British Nuclear Test Veterans' Association, which was set up in 1983 to fight for compensation. The group alleges that witnesses were deliberately exposed to radiation to see how their bodies would react.

man of the association and a veteran of the very first test in 1952, admitted yesterday that they must now go "back to the drawing board". But he added: "I for one certainly won't

Announcing yesterday's result, Judge Rudolf Bernhardt said that it had not been shown that any documents existed which could have proved the mens' case, while stressing that the court had no jurisdic-

forget it." He said that exposure to

lung, and a heart attack he suffered when aged only 42. "The most tragic thing is that it goes right through my family. My said Mr Egan. Mr McGinley, who was in Strasbourg yesterday, says the radiation from the tests left him sterile, and caused him arthritis, skin and kidney problems.

Peter Fletcher, vice-chair-

John Spellar, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Defence, welcomed the ruling. "The documents which we have pro-

tion to consider allegations of the court case clearly demonlack of protection offered to the strate that the great majority of men during the tests. Four out servicemen present at the tests of the nine judges sitting at the se, however, dissented from from the nuclear detonations to radiation dose," he said.

Mr Egan, however, remains uncompromising. "I have this sickness, the government don't. and so they are not bothered."

Degree standards proposal 'points to

BY BEN RUSSELL Education Correspondent

disaster'

day condemned as potentially disastrous plans to impose na-

tional standards on universities. They said proposals from the new higher education standards watchdog were expensive, unnecessary and at best

irrelevant. The Quality Assurance Agency, however, said its proposals had been backed by students and business leaders.

A consultative document produced by the agency proposes laying down "programme specifications" to show what degrees should cover and setting up a system of registered examiners to inspect university teaching.

The Independent revealed last month that the agency had been forced to back down over inspections after protests from

vice-chancellors and lecturers. Responses from Oxford and Cambridge focus on proposals to set degree standards, which have been criticised as the first step towards a national curriculum for higher education.

Oxford University said it would "strongly oppose" the idea of national specifications

The university's response to the consultation said: "We think it highly important to recognise that learning is a two-way process, not simply delivery of a curriculum," Academics said the system "would be highly expensive and without benefit in this or similar institutions".

Cambridge said: "It would be nothing short of disastrous if the system proposed ... were to have the effect of crippling those institutions whose exwhose performance is out-

would be developed in the light of the 300 responses to the consultation.

"There are proper concerns that a new system should be effective, not bureaucracy," he said. "It should build on what has been achieved by institutions and avoid emplication of effort. It must recognise the diversity that gives higher ed-



Ken McGinley says radiation from Britain's nuclear tests in the 1950s left him sterile and caused him arthritis, skin and kidney problems

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Clampdown on farm worker exploitation

By Linus gregoriadis

A CLAMPDOWN on the illegal exploitation of farm workers by unscrupulous "gangmasters" was announced by the Government vesterday.

The Ministry of Agriculture, measures which could save taxpayers millions of pounds by curbing the unlawful employment of immigrants and bene-

65 x 124 (2 ±1 (2 ±2)

fit claimants. "Operation Gangmaster" is designed to stop agricultural foremen or "gangmasters" paying immigrants low wages to work on farms under appailing

conditions. Lord Donoughue, the farming industry minister, said yesterday: "There is a significant minority of gangmasters in this country whose activities are simply unacceptable. I am very concerned about the intimida-

tion and abuse of workers' people are involved in."

gangmasters provide a legitimate service, meeting farmers' at harvest time. Gangmasters demands for manpower during are able to exploit their work-Fisheries and Food unveiled 20 per cent of the 2,000 gangmasters in this country operate illegally, he said.

He added: "Operation Gangmaster will involve joint enforcement visits to farms where illegal activities are suspected. These will be followed by indepth investigations into the gangmasters involved."

The Government believes that new guidelines for gangmasters, farmers and workers, produced by the National Farmers' Union and the Fresh Produce Consortium, will reduce the scale of the problem by informing them of their rights and obligations.

rights which some of these whom are smuggled into Britain from eastern Europe, Although the majority of have been found to have worked for as little as £1 an hour

the busiest times of year, about ers' poor grasp of English and their illegal status. Leaflets explaining workers' rights - including 10,000 in Polish and Russian – will be distributed among workers who are often intimidated into not complaining about long work-

ing hours and deductions from their pay for transport or accommodation. The Transport and General Workers' Union, which believes that 10 to 15 per cent of an estimated 40,000 gang workers in this country are illegal workers

from abroad, welcomed the Government's initiative.

Illegal immigrants, many of al section, said: "They have co-ordinated the enforcement of existing law and we support this as a useful first step.

But he said that the TGWU

Lord Donoughue said: "For the longer term we are continuing to examine the scope for registration of agricultural gangmasters and ways to assist the unemployed to take up seasonal agricultural employment more easily, reducing the temptation to work while on benefit and laying individuals open to exploitation by gangmasters."

The first raid in the Government's operation last April led to 180 workers being interviewed on spring onion farms in Lincolnshire. Fifty of the workers were

found to be benefit claimants Don Pollard, the national and 37 were arrested for poschair of the union's agricultursible immigration offences.

Anaesthetist's Protest drivers facing court 'fatal errors'

A 10-YEAR-OLD girl died in the dentist's chair after an anaesthetist failed to follow basic procedures, a disciplinary hear-

ing was told yesterday. Katte Dougal had gone to the surgery after breaking her two front teeth in a fall. But within minutes of being put under a general anaesthetic by consuitant Dr Tapas Kırmar Basu, she suffered heart failure.

The General Medical Council in London was told that Dr Basu, 59, had failed to use monitoring equipment to check the child's heart and blood gases during the operation.

Rosalind Foster, for the Council, told the Professional Conduct Committee hearing that it was alleged that Dr Basu had also failed to check Katie's blood pressure, weigh her or to take an adequate

medical history. Dr Basu, of Walsall, denies serious professional misconduct in failing to provide adequate medical care, failing to keep his anaesthetics knowledge up to date and failure to keep adequate records. He is also accused of failing to initiate proper resuscitation or use a defibrillator to try to start her

Katie's mother, Patricia Dougal, 31, of Breacton, Derbyshire,



Katie Dougal, 10, who died in dentist's chair

said she brought her daughter to the Alexander T Gordon practice in Long Eaton on 18 January 1996 after her GP had said she was fit for the anaesthetic.

Katie was found to be dead on arrival at the Queen's Medical Centre in Nottingham.

Dr Basu, who has been working as a consultant at the Neath General Hospital in West Glamorgan, admitted not being familiar with guidance given to anaesthetists by the company employing him at the surgery and failing to connect monitors. He denies the other charges. The hearing continues.

BY RANDEEP RAMESH Transport Correspondent

face prosecution by police over a protest action earlier this week that reduced thousands of cars to a crawl on Britain's motorways.

Essex police said that 60 lorries draped in banners drove at 5mph on some stretches of motorway, causing traffic jams up to eight miles long. Officers identified 14 trucks that police say were driving "without due care and consideration for other road users".

Unit, said that the action was vehicles were a potential danger to other drivers.

The disruption was part of a nationwide protest by a newly formed action group that is campaigning against both the high cost of diesel in Britain and law changes that will allow European drivers to work in this country without permits.

Two of England's biggest cities were targeted - London and Birmingham. In the Midlands, more than a hundred lorries blocked two of the three M6 ianes between Staffordshire and Warwickshire.

However, the leader of the truckers said that the group would fight on, claiming that the

FOURTEEN LORRY drivers police had intimidated them. "We won't be put off by these bully-boy tactics," said Peter Knight, a Kent haulier who leads the protest group Trans-

Mr Knight said more action was planned, and he added that his group would resort to "French-style" blockades to get noticed. "Nobody listens to what we say. The extra duty on diesel will lose me alone £32,000

"If the lads get taken to Acting Inspector Mick court, the police will have to Green from Brentwood Traffic stop 1,000 tractors and cabs from turning up," added Mr "totally disruptive", and the Knight, whose protest group has 50 members.

The group fears that the lower cost of diesel on the Continent - as much as 19p cheaper than the 53p a litre paid for the fuel in Britain - coupled with the lifting of work restrictions on foreign hauliers, will see Continental firms flooding onto the nation's highways.

Trade organisations were sympathetic to the hauliers' arguments but not the methods employed. "This action will not get Government listening," said Steve Norris, the head of the Road Haulage Association. | ucation its strength."

pectation is excellence and standing. There is a serious risk that the present proposals would do just this." John Randall, chief executive of the Quality Assurance Agency, said that proposals

formed and national debate on what is clearly becoming a widespread national problem."

Allan Levy QC, writing in Whistleblowing in the Social Services, published yesterday, said: "We already have many suggestions and recommendations from exhaustive inquires. Why have these not been put into practice? Why are the same mistakes being made? Why is a great deal of avoidable suffering and damage

still occurring? "It must be a high priority to ensure that the will is found to put the detailed lessons into

Anger as jury clear PC in CS gas attack

BY KATE WATSON-SMYTH

A JURY that cleared a 6f 2in traffic policeman of assault after he squirted CS spray into the face of a pensioner who had parked on double yellow lines was yesterday rebuked by the judge presiding over the case.

PC Andrew Taylor, 31, had denied causing actual bodily harm and said he used the spray because Kenneth Whitaker, 67, was uncooperative. abusive and threatening.

He was cleared by a jury of eight women and four men at Luton Crown Court after four and a half hours. But Judge Daniel Rodwell said: "Notwithstanding the verdict, this has been a disturbing and upsetting case. I fear that the reaction in the Civil Court will be quite different and will cost Bedfordshire Police Authority quite a lot of money.

He refused to award PC Taylor his costs and told the jury: "I think you will perhaps reflect that if in future other OAPs are gassed or assaulted by police they may indeed have this particular case in mind.

"It would be totally wrong to fund this defendant's cost out of public money.

Mr Whitaker's two sons. Vince and Kelvin, and his daughter Jennifer, who were in court, said they were shocked by the verdict.

"He was a 65-year-old man sitting in a car with a seatbelt have the confidence to use the on who was sprayed because a policeman was scared. I have no faith in the justice system any more," said Ms Whitaker.

Vince Whitaker said: "We were certain it would be guilty. It is unbelievable. I would imagine my father will be seeking further legal advice to see if there is anything else that can not face any internal police be done in the Civil Court."

Mr Whitaker, who was not in court to hear the verdict, said later: "I am just disgusted by it. Nobody is a winner here."

It emerged after the hearing that Mr Whitaker had already been paid thousands of pounds in compensation by Bedfordshire police in an out-of-court settlement after he took civil action against them.

"I would like it to be known that this case was heard last August and I was awarded costs plus an out-of-court settlement which, of course, completely vindicated me," he said.

PC Taylor was driven away from court in an unmarked car by a uniformed traffic policeman after leaving the court with his wife Rebecca, who is also a police officer, and their five-month-old son Daniel. Outside the court there were

angry exchanges between members of Mr Whitaker's family and friends and relatives of PC Taylor.

A spokesman for Bedfordshire police said PC Taylor. who has been suspended pending the outcome of the court hearing, would be reinstated to the force. The spokesman said Bed-

fordshire police would "look again" at their CS spray procedures. But he stressed that officers acted within legal guidelines laid down nationally when using their sprays.

equipment they are supplied with," he said. "Bedfordshire police use their incapacitant in line with the national training and with-

as a matter of course." He said PC Taylor would



'Portrait of Lady Williams Wynn with her three children', by Sir Joshua Reynolds, which sold for a record £1,376,500 at Sotheby's in London last night Andrew Buurman

No place like home in tomorrow's world

HOME IS where the heart is for BY GLENDA COOPER the Britons of 2020 with our whole idea of community, work and relationships altered and made more flexible.

With one in five of us self-em-"It is essential that police ... ployed in 20 years' time and less than half of us in full-time work, the home will become increasingly important as a place where we not only live but work, shop and seek entertainment.

The NeXt generation: Lifestyles for the Future, a rein the national guidelines. However, we will look at them again port by the Henley Centre, says the watchwords for the next decades are flexibility, choice, self-sufficiency and disenfrandisciplinary procedures. chisement as society develops.

Social Affairs Correspondent

The winners in 2020 will undoubtedly be women who are seen as better suited to flexible employment and have shown more skills in areas like teamwork and time management, all of which will be at a premium in the new workforce.

Those born after 1978 - the so-called "Millennial Kids" will also be well-adapted to prosper, already accepting the need for self-sufficiency and planning for their future.

The losers will be men - who have seen traditional jobs eroded - and the "have-nots" who will see the support of the welfare state reduced.

Feminism has made a great impact on Generation Xers (21-36-year-olds), with women generally having a more positive outlook, being more prepared to take risks and adapt to change. "Generation X women are self-confident, fairly empowered and are not necessarily trying on all these different guises," said Jane Falkingham, lecturer on population studies and social policy at the London School of Economics. "The men have some-

how lost their role."

The Henley Centre, which compiled the research for the Prudential predicts that diminishing family ties mean we will become more reliant on friends, seeking out like-minded people rather than relatives, and that the home will

become the centre of our lives. "The home is of increasing importance," said Laurie Taylor visiting professor of politics and sociology at Birkbeck College, London. "There is a great increase in home ownership, and important technical advances mean that more and more can be done from the home including work ... Al-

ready 15 per cent of package holidays are booked through Ceefax and when television becomes interactive there will be an enormous transformation

... We have to ask what the future of the community will be: With more flexible attitudes to families, and a state pension likely to be worth only 8 per cent

of average earnings by 2020, a whole new attitude to financial planning will have to be worked out. Self-sufficiency will become more important in managing money. And people will have to retire later or maybe not at all to maintain a modest income during their twilight years.



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Man held in abuse inquiry at Barnardo's

By GLENDA COOPER

POLICE IN Yorkshire are appealing for former residents and staff at a Barnardo's children's home to come forward after a man was arrested in connection with alleged sexu-

A 51-year-old man, of Worcester, was arrested last Monday night in the West Midlands and taken to Harrogate police station, North Yorkshire, where he was being

The man, who was a houseparent at Springhill residential school, in Ripon, North Yorkshire, was being interviewed by police who were investigating a series of allegations of physical and sexual abuse at the school in the Sixties and

The inquiry is the latest in a series of scandals where former residents of children's homes around the country have made

extensive allegations of abuse. particularly in North Wales and Cheshire, where Britain's biggest investigation into the abuse of children in care was launched four years ago.

The Yorkshire investigation began last September after a former resident at the school, which looked after children with learning difficulties and challenging behaviour, made a complaint to the charity Barnardo's which was passed on to the police.

former residents of the school, which was responsible for boys and girls between the ages of five and sixteen, and 10 complaints of abuse have been made against former members of staff. These allegations are being investigated.

ual abuse." said Detective In- structing four new buildings for

Pudsey.

Police have now spoken to 60

"Since receiving the initial number of former residents, some of whom have made al-

spector Phil Metcalfe, who is the school. There were on avleading the inquiry. "We are continuing our inquiries and it is vital we hear from people who lived at the Springhill school in order to substantiate these allegations."

Twelve officers and two social workers from North Yorkshire County Council have been drafted in to help with the inquiry, codenamed Operation

During the Sixties and Seventies, the Barnardo's Springhill School was based in an old Church Commission building called the Bishop's Palace. It included 82 acres of land, and had a chapel, a coach house and a gate lodge.

Between 1940, when the school was established, and 1949, it was an all-girls school, complaint we have spoken to a but in 1950 it became mixed and was known as a school for the

erage 40 children cared for by the school each year, although this went up to 56 in 1979 to A spokeswoman for the po-

lice said that she was not aware of any previous investigation into Springhill. None of the current staff is under

A spokesman for Barnado's said that the allegations related to the period between 1967 and 1974: "We are saddened and distressed by any claims relating to the protection of children entrusted to our care and there is full co-operation with the police."

This matter was brought to out attention in 1997, we immediately investigated and passed the matter over to the police." he added. "Clearly we have no wish to prejudice police "educationally subnormal". In inquiries so we cannot comlegations of physical and sex- 1989 £2m was invested in con- ment further at this point."

Social workers spurn forum

By Roger Dobson

MORE THAN 100 homes and schools in Cheshire and Merseyside have been or are now being investigated amid allegations that children in care have been abused. For the past two years, police

forces throughout the United Kingdom have also been investigating allegations of abuse based on information passed to them from the North-west.

Against this background social services in the Northwest organised - with police backing - what was to have been a national conference for the country's top social services managers to pass on tips that had been picked up during the

four-year inquiry. Despite this a national conference on combating child abuse had to be cancelled be-

people, which was not enough We were not saying our way cause not enough senior social workers would be attending. to make it worthwhile ... Delegates were to have been

given expert advice on how to protect children and track down abusers based on lessons learnt during Britain's biggest investigation into the abuse of children in care.

"I was very disappointed," said Vic Citarella, director of social services in Liverpool. "By the deadline we had set we had only 37 applications, and that included quite a lot of local

"We felt it was the sort of experience departments could

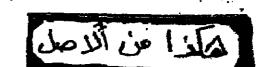
apply and we had the support of the Social Services Inspectorate. I don't know why people didn't want to come Co-organiser, David Whitehead, director in Warrington,

said: "I was surprised and rather disappointed that we had to cancel it. "We were not advocating a particular way of doing things.

ANNE MCELVOY

The British write a fierce letter brimstone is our natural mode. But we remain too craven towards talk show hosts

THE WEDNESDAY REVIEW, PAGE 4



Wife's plea to missing father as son is born



than eight months ago has given birth to his son, it was announced yesterday. Dr Jane Noble, 30, gave birth

to a 10lb 12oz boy on Monday night - and hopes that news of the birth will reach her missing husband, Dr Matthew Choyce, and persuade him to return to their home in Newcastle upon

Dr Noble's twin sister, Ann, a cancer research doctor, helped with the delivery, and their mother, Dr Mary Noble. 68, a social anthropology researcher, was also on hand.

The baby has been named Iain Matthew after Dr Noble's father and husband, said the proud mother, adding. "It would have been nice to have had Matthew here with me at the birth. I'm sure he would have loved to have been here."

Dr Noble, who became pregnant four weeks before her husband disappeared, said: The most important thing is for Matthew to come back. He won't be in any trouble. Everyone - friends, family and col-



Matthew Choyce: Vanished from his home last October

he's OK. I need Matthew to help with the baby - he's very good with kids and really loves them. "I just want him to get in

touch, to let him know how I am, how beautiful our baby is, to find out how he is and hug us close together. We really are a family

"If he wants to make a new start somewhere else in the UK or abroad with me - then I would drop everything for him.

would like them to tell him that his wife and child love him, and I miss him deeply."

Dr Choyce, 34, an Old Etonian and Oxford graduate, disappeared from his home in Heaton without warning some time between 4am and 7.17am on 6 October. He was believed to be under stress over his career as a casualty doctor at Sunderland Royal Hospital. Wearside, and was considering making his next step to become

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a consultant. His grey Renault Clio, now at the family home, was found on the seafront at Tynemouth. Inside was a note which, while rambling, gave no suggestion that he might be about to kill himself. His bank account has not been touched, and he also left behind his credit card. passport and driving licence.

Dr Noble continued working on her PhD at Newcastle University after her husband disappeared, and has now taken six months' maternity leave.

Dr Choyce knew about his wife's pregnancy a week before

Call for nicotine patches on NHS

By JEREMY LAURANCE **Health Editor**

A GROUP of MPs and experts yesterday called for nicotine patches and gum to be made available on prescription to help smokers quit, and thus reduce the financial burden on the National Health Service.

Smoking costs the NHS £1.7bn a year and is a principal contributor to inequalities in health, with the highest levels of smoking occurring among the most disadvantaged members of society, who also have greatest difficulty in giving up.

The group, led by the Labour MP Dr Ian Gibson, who is chairman of the all-party cancer group, said that the expense of nicotine replacement therapy-from £120 to more than £200 for a three-month supply – could put some smokers off making the attempt to give up.

Godfrey Fowler, Emeritus Professor of General Practice at Oxford University and the chairman of an expert panel convened by Novartis, a manufacturer of the nicotine products, said: "With the prevalence of smoking increasing after 20 years of decline it is clear that positive action must be taken to get ahead in the war against smoking and tobacco. We are asking the Government, those responsible for public policy, healthcare professionals and smokers alike to recognise that nicotine replacement therapy is not only safe but is also the most effective aid to smoking cessation currently available." Trials have shown that the

use of nicotine patches and

BY JANINE GIBSON

Media Correspondent

ing documentaries.

CARLTON TELEVISION faces

a second inquiry by the Gov-

over more accusations of fak-

already under investigation by

the Independent Television

Commission over its exposé of

Colombian drugs smuggling

The Connection, will now have

to defend a 1994 film, Inside

Castro's Cuba. The same team

- producer/director Marc de

Beaufort and executive pro-

ducer, Roger James - worked

The Network First docu-

mentary, broadcast on ITV to

two million viewers, is accused

of portraying archive footage of

Cuban president Fidel Castro

as a specially conducted inter-

view with Mr de Beaufort.

on both documentaries.

The ITV company, which is

gum increases success rates among smokers attempting to give up the habit from around 3 per cent to 6 per cent.

A report produced by the panel, which includes Professor John Moxham, the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at King's College, London, and Dr Martin Jarvis, a researcher on smoking at University College London, says tobacco addiction should be taken as seriously as alcohol or drug addiction and efforts should be made to increase awareness of the bene-

fits of using nicotine therapy. Dr Jarvis said: "Over 4,000 harmful products have been identified in cigarette smoke and within these it is the tars that contain the major carcinogens. There is no evidence that nicotine is carcinogenic."

Kevin Barron, the chairman of the Labour backbench health committee and of the all-party parliamentary smoking and health group, said: "The NHS should run some pilot programmes, using either health improvement programmes or health action zones, to measure, through independent evaluation, the health and cost benefit of such strategies."

The launch of the report at the House of Commons drew protests from the Tory MP Gerald Howarth, who said it was wrong for a commercial company to use the facilities of the Commons to promote its products under the guise of addressing a matter of public policy. His intervention was later denounced by Dr Gibson, who said it was "outrageous ... and 100 per cent false".

having its licence removed.

The key question for the

ITC is if the "interview" is

claimed as such within the pro-

gramme. Carlton maintains the

programme does not make the

claim. Sources say claims were

If Carlton's claims are vin-

dicated by the ITC, then the ITV

Network Centre may still have

grounds for complaint as Stu-

art Prebble, then head of factual

programming, says he com-

missioned Carlton on the

pledge of an interview with Castro.

only made in publicity.

Inquiry into TV

'Castro fraud'



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DAY AND APPLIES TO 17-78 YEAR OLDS (28-75 FOR VTR). OFFER APPLIES TO RETAIL SALES OF CARS ORDERED AND REGISTERED BETWEEN 1.8.98 AND 31.8.98. PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. LIMITED EDITION MODELS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.

Tony's chief bully boxes clever with smile and velvet gloves

JOHN PRESCOTT, the chief bully and Deputy Prime Minister, took the House of Commons stage yesterday for Environment, Transport and the Region's questions to face Gillian Shephard, his new shadow.

Over the years, Mr Prescott has raised the art of bullying to a human bloodsport. Prime Ministers' minions, trade union leaders, Peter Mandelson, the former MP for Cleethorpes and, finally, the English language, have all at some time or another submitted, defeated, to his gruff no-nonsense approach.

This is the first time I have seen him since he concluded his successful bus tour of the country which began and ended in (Cleethorpes) during the last general

election. And what a difference a year

Gone were the massive chips on both shoulders. Instead, was a wellpadded, well-fitting suit. Almost elegant, he looked every inch the senior political heavyweight in total control of his department. Where once was a permanent scowl there is now an occasional smile.

Mr Prescott is obviously enjoying ministerial life and, just turned 60 last week knows that he has confounded the pundits and his foes by dropping few catches. The fiery temper which was once his Achilles Heel has been kept well out of public view.

Yet his demeanour still bears the proud hallmarks of the class war warrior even if, on his own admission, he has been admitted by middle England to its high table of comfortable homes, fancy restau-

rants and Jaguar cars. Mrs Shephard preferred to leave the school bully alone and upbraided, instead, the swot, Hilary Armstrong, local government minister, on possible threats to switch money from shire counties to urban

Mrs Shephard is as diminutive as Mr Prescott is heavy. Where his words tumble out in no particular order, hers are issued individually rather as though they have been

THE SKETCH



BROWN

specially selected and counted out for the occasion. One can image Mrs Shephard as

the school ma'am (she was once a Mr Prescott's new approach comschool inspector) coping with Prescott as the class bully with his flicking of ink pellets and his verbal cheek: "I may be facing the blackboard, Prescott, but I know you are the one I can hear putting chip butties into my handbag. See me afterwards."

It is rumoured that when they both appeared together last week after William Hague's reshuffle, Mr Prescott said to Mrs Shephard as they were standing behind the Speaker's chair: "I don't know whether I kiss you or cuddle you." "You'll do neither," she reportedly

But there are some differences to

pared with his old style. Where once he set about his politics with a fiery passion, he now wisely uses cooling water to damp down potential trouble from the opposition benches.

He generously, and almost courteously, welcomed the new junior opposition spokesman, Bernard Jenkin, who showed great wit and further promise on his first outing.

Mr Prescott apologised for not participating in yesterday's parlia-mentary cycle ride to mark National Bike Week, but said he had just flown in from New York. "I don't think anybody has thought of cy-

cling from New York." Mr Jenkin said to laughter that

this would no doubt become Liberal Democratic Party policy, shortly before he took on the old bruiser on the delay in producing the much heralded transport White Paper Mr Prescott cuffed gently by saying he had to spend the past year sorting

out the mess the Tories left him. This question time showed the full extent of Mr Prescott's personal achievement. With old scores to settle. I tried in vain to see any cracks in his armoury. I want to hate him but I just cannot. He is simply too good. But then maybe I have always been prejudiced, subconsciously in his favour. After all, us secondary modern schoolboys must stick together, mustn't we John?

Prescott vows to confront rebels

TOHN PRESCOTT has made an LABOUR PARTY Mer to Tony Blair to use his role as Deputy Leader of the Labour Party to tackle the

Downing Street yesterday shrugged off the revolt by 31 Labour MPs against the introduction of student tuition fees and the abolition of mainta-

But the Deputy Prime Minister sounded a note of concern in his exclusive interview with corty. He believes Labour spokesmen have succeeded in making the step from Opposition shadows to ministers in ments, but the party has yet to eet right the shift from Oppo-

sition to Government. "I think that has yet to be outed out and it is the very area where the interface between that any where near right as it

"There are changes in the general secretary and the .vles. That is an area I am a lit-



Problem solver John

BY COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

near right yet," said Mr Prescott.

"Tm saying it's an interface between Opposition and

"We have all had to go through it, from MPs to party staff. I think that is a process The Independent about the which we haven't examined enough and yet the manifestations of those sensitivities are all around us.

"The relations with the PLP charge of Whitehall depart- and with the party. I think in the coming year as Deputy Leader I will need to live up to what I think the Deputy Leader's job

He had his 60th birthday last week and he says that in the early in Government is most—he has no intention of fighting felt. I don't think we have got frustrating battles over whether he should be the one to sort out relations between the party and the Government.

The Deputy Prime Minister confirmed he would be voting the nervous about. I don't think for Dennis Skinner against a hips' slate of three candidates in the elections to the

> MPs as a signal to ignore the whips' pressure in the secret ballot, but his weekend message was clear: if the Prime Minister wants him to do so, he is ready to increase his workload over the next year to quell some of the unrest.

Last night, the revolt over student grants and tuition fees ended with the third reading of the Teaching and Higher Education Bill, but the discontent rumbled on with Labour backbenchers complaining the guillotine had limited their scope to air their grievances.



Ten French MPs joined over 100 MPs and Lords who took part in the annual great Parliamentary bike ride as part of National Bike Week. Pictured above is Michael Meacher MP

Inquiry warning to top civil servant

ROBIN COOK'S most senior SIERRA LEONE the party in Opposition, and the last ten years of his political life, civil servant was heavily criticised by MPs yesterday as he repeatedly refused to answer questions about the arms to Sierra Leone affair.

Sir John Kerr, who was recalled to the House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee after being forced to retract evidence given at an earlier hearing, said he could say little until an party's national executive. inquiry was complete.

That will be seen by the The permanent secretary to the Foreign Office did confirm, however, that two Foreign Office ministers were given different information about the involvement of a firm of British mercenaries in a counter-coup.

Political Correspondent

Baroness Symons and Tony Lloyd answered parliamentary debates on consecutive days in March, but while Mr Lloyd was not told there was a Customs and Excise inquiry into the activities of Sandline International, Baroness Symons was.

Sir John Stanley, Conservative MP for Tonbridge and Malling, said the committee had taken advice from the clerk of the House of Commons and that Sir John Kerr would be in contempt if he failed to an-

told the committee several answered a Commons' debate. lated to your previous evidence. them because of an ongoing inquiry by Sir Thomas Legg into whether officials or ministers knew about Sandline's activities. The firm was paid by the exiled Sierra Leonean President, Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, to

help reinstate him last March. Sir John Kerr said that to give new information might prejudice any possible disciplinary proceedings, over which he would preside as head

of the diplomatic service. He told the committee last month that Mr Lloyd had been briefed about the Customs and

swer questions. But the official Excise investigation before he question put to you directly reforced to retract the evidencehe had given about Mr Llovd. Yesterday, though, he was reluctant even to repeat his earlier statements.

Yesterday, he said: "I don't believe it is right for us to go further until all the aspects have been explored by the independent investigation. I am very, very uneasy about pursuing the matter now."

Sir John Stanley told him: With great respect, you are taking yourself into very serious country indeed. It is unacceptable to refuse to answer a

it is simply not acc give non-answers."

Sir John Kerr was asked to reconsider his position, and could be called back yet again.

David Heath, the Liberal Democrat MP for Somerton and Frome, said afterwards: "If he wants to be before our committee for the rest of his life answering questions on Sierra Leone, this is the best way of doing it.

"As far as we are concerned the Legg inquiry is not a judicial one and we are perfectly entitled to ask whatever questions



THE HOUSE

BBC journalist to advise at No 10

LANCE PRICE, a political correspondent for the BBC, is to replace Tim Allan as an adviser at No 10 under Alastair Campbell, the Prime Minister's official spokesman.

Mr Price is the latest in a lengthening line of journalists joining the information teams at Whitehall, but he will be working as a party adviser within No 10. handling party issues.

Plan for young people's Parliament PROPOSALS FOR a Youth Parliament which would allow

teenagers to air their views were put forward yesterday by Andrew Rowe, the Conservative MP for Faversham and Mid Kent. The new body would be made up of young people drawn from existing youth forums. Under the proposals, Government ministers would respond to the

Compensation for former miners

UP TO 13,000 former miners suffering from respiratory disease are to be offered interim compensation payments. energy minister John Battle said yesterday. In a Commons written reply, he said the Government was giving £2,000 to all claimants receiving Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit for chronic bronchitis and emphysema because of delays to a court case against the Government.

Today in Parliament

■ Questions to David Clark, Chancellor of the Duchy of

Prime Minister's Question Time

10 minute debate on the restoration of damage done to Sites of Special Scientific Interest ■ Second Reading of the Northern Ireland (Sentences)

■ Adjournment debate tabled by Quentin Davies: Grantham Hospital

Labour drops papers price war curb

BY ANTHONY BEVINS Political Editor

AN ATTACK on national news paper price wars was deleted from the Government's Competition Bill yesterday.

The so-called Murdoch Amendment, inserted into the Bill by an alliance of Liberal Democrats and rebel Labour eers in the House of Lords last February, was painlessly extracted by the Government, by 17 votes to 2.

During a standing commit-tee examination of the legislation, John Redwood, the Conservative spokesman, advised his Tory colleagues to abstain in a straight fight between the Liberal Democrats, led by David Chidgey, and the committee's predominant force of

Labour MPs. The amendment was tabled by Lord McNally, a Liberal Democrat who is a former Labour MP and No 10 aide to James Callaghan, as part of an attempt to curb the alleged predatory pricing of the Times.

The amendment was passed in February with the backing of including Lord Hattersley, a former deputy leader of the party, along with three other former Labour cabinet ministers: Baroness Castle, Lord Shore

and Lord Barnett. Opening yesterday's debate, and defending the amendment, Mr Chidgey, MP for Eastleigh, derided any suggestion that price-cutting by the Times was a notional and temporary affair, saying that it had been going on

for five years. Drawing on a briefing paper supplied to him by The Independent, Mr Chidgey argued that there was conflicting legal advice about the Bill as proposed by the Government, without the clause, and the question of predatory pricing

needed to be clarified. "There are serious questions of a potential failure of competition law to deal with predatory pricing," he said. For the Opposition, Mr Red-

wood also said that there was a need for clarification, but he rejected the Liberal Democrat approach. "We are very unhappy with the drafting of the Bill," he said. However, he rejected any

question of a targeted approach against the newspaper industry as such, saying instead that the Conservatives would be happy to support a general amendment on a clarification of the law on predatory pricing, along with greater powers for the Office of Fair Trading to pursue complaints.

Mr Redwood said it was the Conservative view that people and organisations were innocent until proved guilty, and the same principle must apply to the Times.

If people wanted to supply new evidence about predatory

pricing by the Times, it should be given to the relevant competition authorities. Ian McCartney, the Trade and Industry Minister, de-

nounced any suggestion that the legislation had been tilted to the advantage of Rupert Murdoch and News International, saying: "This Government is not in the process of giving favours."Any abuse would be dealt with under the terms of the strengthened legislation. "The Government is proposing a very rigorous regime," he said.

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Hospital in London overran its budget by more than 80 per cent

THE REDEVELOPMENT of Guy's

and was completed more than three years late in one of the worst cases of overspending in recent NHS history, the National Audit Office has found.

The hospital planned to spend £83.1m on building an right-storey block, now known as Thomas Guy House, for completion at the end of 1992. After a series of accidents, including the removal of more than a mile of copper piping which was attacked by bacteria, the project was completed in April 1997 at a cost of £151.8m, £68.7 million over budget.

Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Trust is currently suing the developers over the project, one of whom - P&O Developments for the trust said the question of responsibility for the cost inBY JEREMY LAURANCE

Hospital criticised over

Health Editor

disastrous building project

crease and delay was a matter for the courts. "We have entered litigation. It is for the courts to decide," he said.

The trust managed to find part of the extra money - the Treasury was forced to increase its contribution from £19.5m to £92.6m - but is still £26.8m short. This is being financed by temporary borrowing within the NHS. The disaster is the second to

befall a major hospital building project in the last decade. The 660-bed Chelsea and Westminster hospital, completed at a cost of £202m in 1992, also overran its budget and was criticised by the National Audit Office. Sir John Bourn, the auditor

crease at Guy's included changes to the design after construction had begun, delays to the building works, a large number of disputes with the contractors and the bankruptcy of one of them. The NHS executive has now

the reasons for the cost in

revised its guidance on the construction of major building projects in the light of experience at Chelsea and Westminster and Guy's. Sir John said the new advice, which highlights the importance of strong project leadership, "should help improve the planning and delivery of NHS construction projects"

Tim Matthews, chief executive of the trust, said: "The new trust inherited a troubled building project. It acted swiftly to establish control ... The NAO identify many important lessons for NHS building projects."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

general, says in the report that

from ethnic minorities Geoffrey Hoon, Parliamentary Secretary to the Lord Chancellor's Office, told Joan Humble (Lab, Blackpool North and Fleetwood) that 4.1 per cent of the magistrates who responded to a recent survey were from an ethnic mintority.

Glenda Jackson, Transport Minister, said told Lindsay Hoyle (Lab, Chorley), that there had been a 94 per cent increase in the number of railway passenger complaints in the first three months of 1998 compared with the same peri-

iniuries from cattle Angela Eagle, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Environment, Transport and the Regions, told Tom Levitt (Lab, High Peak), that there were no plans to make any changes in law following a court case inwhich a walker sued a farmer after being injured by cattle.

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EDIA

Conservatives promise new approach as leader prepares to celebrate first year in office. Interview by Colin Brown

Hague on warpath as Tories rally for fightback

WILLIAM HAGUE said yesterday that he will vote for the age of consent for gay sex to be reduced to 16 when the Commons considers the issue later this

The Tory leader was in his of-fice preparing for a téte-à-tête over dinner with TUC leaders. It may have sounded like the agenda of an Old Labour warhorse, but this, he said, was indicative of his new "lis-

tening" approach. Next door, Archie Norman his former boss at business consultants McKinsey – was telling the troops they would be facing a shake up at Conservative Central Office. It is a hard way to mark Mr Hague's first year in the job, but he says the time for excuses is over.

The party has seen a haemorrhage of its business backers, and is being forced to make cuts to keep within its £4m overdraft limit. But Mr Hague said it was not just a cuts exercise. "I expect it to cost less but I expect it do more," he said of his party machine. "Archie is liberating the talent in them. Making sure that people know where they stand, who they report to."

I hope to appoint more $women\ but\ I$ need more women MPs'

liberated" may feel differently. Morale has been rock bottom, the party finances are said by insiders to be "dire", and Mr Norman has unset the party old guard with his McKinsey-style

executive vim. He said Mr Norman was beginning the review of staff, making sure that a leaner fitter party hits harder. "Some of it will be dead wood. We are making sure party resources are deployed in the right way. We will be doing a lot more attacking because there is more to attack.

"I told the Shadow Cabinet last week I expect a universally high level of activity," Mr Hague said. "We have now passed the point where anyone can have any excuse for being shell-shocked and not knowing what to do."

In his spartan office, Mr Hague sounded like an Asda executive after a bad set of figures. "We have just had a year where of course we spent a lot of time on our own internal party organisation. It was right to do that. We will be spending less time talking to each other and more time talking to the country. After the World Cup, we will be launching Listening to Britain."

Voting for lowering of the legal age for gay sex in the forthcoming vote in the Com-

mons will raise a few eyebrows in the party, not least those of his newly-appointed shadow Health Secretary, Anne Widdecombe, who is campaigning on family values. Some diehard Tories may think gay rights and family values do not go together, but Mr Hague sees

no contradiction in his position. "I will vote the same as in the past, I will listen to the debate. I voted for an equal age of consent, and unless somebody gives me some good arguments I have not heard yet, I will do so again. That is what I mean about supporting the family. I am not saying everybody has to

live the same way. "I think of marriage being a man and a woman living together, having children and bringing up a family, but I am not saying that you should try to prevent people living with each other in different ways."

On 19 June, he will be celebrating his first year as Conservative leader. Although he described his marriage to Ffion as the most important event of the past 12 months, since becoming leader he has been criticised for surrounding himself with eager, capable young men, but no senior women advisers.

"I brought a woman into the Shadow Cabinet and I have appointed women to the front bench [Theresa May made her promising debut this week]. I bope to appoint more women in the future, but I need more women MPs. I only have 14 at

We are not going to go about that by all-women shortlists or quotas. That would be wrong in principle." Instead he is setting up a network for professional young women, under Peta Buscombe, appointed yesterday to encourage Tory women across the country to stand for Parliament.

The reshuffle which brought old-stagers such as Sir Norman Fowler and Miss Widdecombe back into the front line, however effective, showed the paucity of new blood available. He defends his choice of a Tory aristocrat, Michael Ancram, as party chairman to take over from Lord Parkinson at the annual conference in October. Michael, he says, is well-liked and affable. Mr Hague means he is good man to have on the "rubber-chicken" run to repair the damage with the party in the country after the defeat.

Mr Hague sees no contradiction in claiming to be the great moderniser of the Tory party while at the same time being forced into a last-ditch defence of the hereditary principle. He is now embarking on a constitutional battle over reform of the House of Lords, the like of which may not have been since the passing of the Parlia-

ment Act over 80 years ago. Last night's dinner with the TUC leaders was his second hig meal of the day. "I do eat a lot," he admitted. "I burn up a lot of fuel." For the task ahead, he will need all the energy he can get.



William Hague: 'We have now passed the point where anyone can have any excuse for being shell-shocked and not knowing what to do'

Photograph: David Rose

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Households face tax on rubbish



Each year, Britain dumps 85 per cent of its 120 million tonnes of household rubbisb in landfill sites – compared with 11 per cent in Switzerland and 46 per cent in Germany

Brian Harris

HOUSEHOLDERS WHO recy- BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY cle more of their rubbish may end up paying less council tax, under a new strategy to improve Britain's waste management performance unveiled yesterday by Michael Meacher, among the developed counthe environment minister, .

The Government is considering changing the present flatrate charge imposed for refuse nually to landfill sites than alcollection by local councils, most all our major industrial where everyone pays the same no matter how many bin bags they leave out for collection, into a variable one which would mean the bigger the unrecycled rubbish pile, the bigger the bill.

Variable charging, a government study suggests, would cost the average household £71 a year, with a cost of under £33 for the poorest, and £116 for the richest households, which spend much more on goods likely to end up as rubbish.

The idea was floated by the published a consultation paper strategy, to be finalised at the end of the year, which is aimed at redressing the UK's com- able council tax met with paratively poor performance guarded approval yesterday

Environment Correspondent

in waste management. In household waste, Britain is at the bottom of the league table tries, recycling less and sending more of the 120 million tonnes of waste we produce an-

hold waste - about 6 per cent compares with 42 per cent in Switzerland, 29 per cent in Canada, 24 per cent in the US and 18 per cent in Germany. We send 85 per cent of it to dumps, compared with 11 per cent in Switzerland, 67 per cent in Canada, 61 per cent in the US and 46 per cent in Germany.

had taken important steps forward in changing things. "but Government yesterday when it it did not recognise the scale of change required to meet its on its proposed new waste own targets for recycling and recovery," Mr Meacher said.

The suggestion of a vari-

HOUSEHOLD WASTE AROUND THE WORLD

Our total recycling of house-

The previous government

recycle more, considerable in- an efficient collection service. vestment was needed in a re-

ever, that if households were to such as paper and plastics and

from pressure groups and the cycling infrastructure-different haven't got the money," said Opposition, who stressed, how- boxes for different materials Mike Childs, waste campaigner for Friends of the Earth.

Proposes to ban landfill of waste containing more

Aims to ban landfilling of combustible wastes

Banning landfill of combustible wastes. Plans to

Planning to increase co-combustion capacity to

increase recycling and waste combustion capacity

Banning the landfilling of combustible wastes by

Aims to ban landfill of waste with greater than 3%

Upgrading existing facilities for power generation

Has banned landfilling of combustible wastes

Aims to ban landfilling of combustible wastes

Plans to further reduce reliance on landfill by

increasing recycling and combustion capacities

Proposes to ban landfilling of combustible wastes

Landfill tax of £7/t. Recycling target of 25% by

2002. Experts by then to increase combustion capacity to 57% and recycling to 23%, landfill tax

than 5% organics by 2004

reduce reliance on landfill .

of-£20/t currently applies

carbon content by 2005

Plans to reduce reliance on landfill

2002 and recovery target of 40% by 2005

substantial increase in recycling and recovery, going beyond the targets set by the previous vernment". Recycling, it says, should be considered before incineration. The previous targets were to recycle and recover 40 per cent of all municipal waste by 2005, and 25 per cent of household waste by 2000; they will not be met. The Government is indicat-

ing that it is prepared to use regulation to achieve this end, rather than leaving it to the market. It will need to, as the market for some recycled materials has all but collapsed: the value of waste paper, for example, is from zero to £5 per tonne so councils are unable to recover the cost of collection.

The Government says it is encouraging the Newspaper Publishers' Association to proposals" for increasing the recycled paper contents of number of sectors, the document says, the Government is hole in the ground." The document's key propos- working with industry to in-"Local councils at present alis that "there is a need for a crease levels of recovery and

recycling on a voluntary basis. It warns however that "it has in reserve regulatory powers to oblige industry to take action, and is prepared to use those powers"

The Government hints that the cost of local authorities setting up more recycling schemes might be defrayed from the landfill tax, which since October 1996 has imposed a charge of £7 per tonne on waste disposed of in rubbish dumps. The figure is set to increase to £10 per tonne next year, but environmental campaigners claim it is still too low to make landfill an unattractive option and has done little to reduce it.

Friends of the Earth welcomed the paper "Recycling will become not only the environmental option, but the cheapest option, as tougher come forward with "ambitious" and tougher standards apply to landfill and incineration," Mr Childs said, "It looks like the newspapers, which stood at Government is finally grasping 41.4 per cent in 1997. And in a what needs to be done, instead of just throwing things into a

Summer schools to offer maths

BY JUDITH JUDD **Education Editor**

MORE THAN 1,500 11-year-olds will be offered the chance to improve their maths during the summer holidays, the Govern-

ment said yesterday. Ministers amounced £500,000 funding for 51 summer schools which aim to give pupils a better start at secondary school.

A programme of literacy summer schools, which began last year, will be expanded to include 560 schools for about 17,000 children. They will receive £5m of public money and a £1m private donation.

Summer schools, based in secondary schools throughout the country, will offer 50 hours' extra tuition with the emphasis on mental arithmetic. The Phoenix school, in west London. recently turned round, and the Ridings School in Halifax, operating under a new head after discipline broke down, are among those involved.

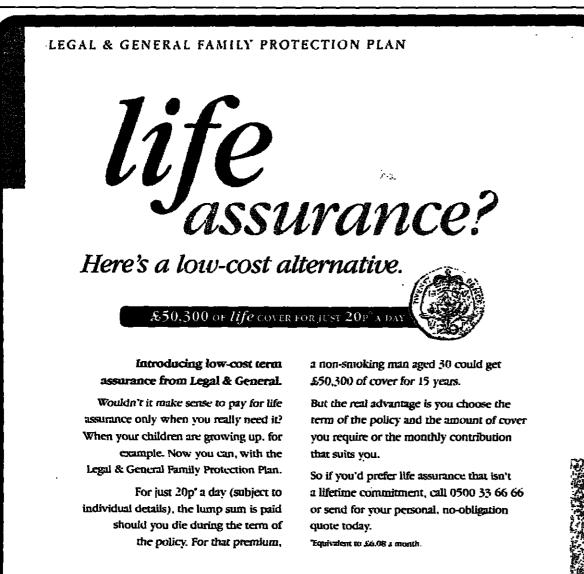
Stephen Byers, the school standards minister, said: "Summer schools are part of our strategy to raise standards. Starting secondary school is a daunting experience. A good grounding in numeracy at the start of term will make the transition much easier."

Results of last year's literacy summer schools were mixed. An evaluation report showed that, though pupils' reading did not improve, their confidence and attitude to school did.

All the summer schools are part of the Government's strategy for meeting targets for 11year-olds in English and maths. In maths, ministers want 75 per cent to reach the expected level by 2002. The present figure s 62 per cent.

Parents will play an important part in supporting pupils who attend numeracy schools. Mr Byers said: "Parents in particular are a key influence in helping youngsters see the value of numeracy."

Pupils aged 11 are expected to be able to calculate mentally the solutions to questions such Leading article, as: calculate 70 per cent of £20; Review, page 3 divide 47 by 10; what is 47 x 25?







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General grapples with nation in chaos

FOR A man who has never before held a political post, General Abdulsalam Abubakar, former chief of defence staff and now Nigeria's eighth military ruler since independence in

1960, faces an awesome task. Ethnic division, political tension, economic decay and international isolation are just part of the legacy he has inherited from his predecessor, General Sani Abacha, who died, an official statement recorded, of a heart attack last Monday.

. Political prisoners and plans to restore constitutional government will be pressing issues at the top of his agenda. On the streets, there has been jubilation in some quarters at the passing of Nigeria's most uncompromising head of state, and unease in others over what the future under General Abubakar might hold.

"Again, the government of our country appears to be an exclusively military matter," one merchant banker in the commercial capital, Lagos, said yesterday. "We are still looking for any sign that this change will empower the people."

BY ANTONY GOLDMAN

Popular considerations have rarely weighed heavily on the minds of the military men who have ruled the country since the collapse of the civilian Second Republic amidst allegations of fraud, corruption and mismanagement in 1983.

General Abubakar's priority will be to try to overcome an apparent split within the military over what role it should play in the political process, which could fatally weaken his position.

General Abacha's closest supporters advocated following a path well-trodden by other military rulers in west Africa, such as Jerry Rawlings in Ghana, or Blaise Compaore in Burkina Faso, who have successfully transformed themselves into constitutional.

civilian presidents. Others, including Nigeria's chief of army staff, Major-General Ishaya Bamaiyi, have publicly called for the military to distance itself from politics. This call for a full return to the barracks, they argue, is a vital precondition for a genuine, sta- ner of elections annulled by

fear that further engagement in politics, particularly in the manner proposed by General Abacha, might prove so corrosive as to fatally undermine the integrity of the military as an effective institution.

General Abubakar has never publicly aligned himself with either tendency, although his reputation as a professional soldier -he served with the United Nations in Lebanon in the Eighties - is unlikely to endear him to those looking to cement the military's role in politics, such as Lieutenant-General Jerry Useni, minister of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

"He's unlikely to have everyone's confidence," remarked a Western diplomat in the capital, Abuja, "and his position remains far from secure."

If he is to please Washington and Europe, Nigeria's new head of state will need to release highprofile detainees, such as the former presidential aspirant, Chief Moshood Abiola, who was charged with treason in 1994 after declaring himself the win-

the military a year earlier. Fri- civilian rule by 1 October, as state of collapse. Health care, day marks the fifth anniversary of that annulment, and could provide the opportunity for hitherto divided and demoralised would be respected. radical opposition groups, operating principally in Chief Abi-

on a show of strength. Also in prison is the former head of state and respected international statesman, Generai Olusegun Obasanjo. Such a move would antagonise Abacha loyalists, however, and might provoke hostility elsewhere in the northern, Islamic, establishment which has traditionally dominated Nigerian politics.

ola's Yoruba south-west, to put

General Abubakar, although a Muslim, is from a minority tribe in the north and will find it difficult to rule without the support of the Hausa-Fulani majority. The most awkward problem

with which the new leadership will have to deal is what to do with General Abacha's programme to restore civilian rule, due to be completed by October. A government spokesman,

Air Vice Marshal Isaac Alfa said in Abuja that the regime would

Abacha promised. However, he did not say whether the August date for presidential elections

The democracy process under General Abacha had been widely criticised abroad and generated little enthusiasm in Nigeria. The five registered political parties lacked any ideology, appearing only as vehicles for the individual ambition of wealthy personalities. All had eagerly pressed for the adoption of General Abacha as their consensus candidate, leading radical groups to call for the

scrapping of the entire process. The new head of state, in any case, may find it technically impossible to proceed with a process which appeared to have as its only purpose the installment of General Abacha as constitutional president.

However, a return to the free-for-all of open political competition also carries risks, with the civilian political class prone to influence-peddling and money politics.

In addition, General Abu-

education and social infrastructure are in a woeful condition. Even petrol is in short supply - in a country which produces more than two million

barrels of oil a day. As with Nigeria's political problems, economic distress, while not created by General Abacha, worsened under his tenure. According to recent World Bank figures, Nigeria now ranks amongst the 20 poorest countries in the world, despite 20 years as one of the world's biggest oil producers. General Abubakar has de-

clared a week of national mourning, in which the politicking now likely to take place will happen in private. To the nation, the new head of state has appealed only for "all hands

We're hoping it is an appeal for unity to turn the country around" said one diplomat, "not a preparation to get into the

Antony Goldman is senior Africa editor at the Economist



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General Abubakar, facing an awesome task



Children arriving in Rome with other Italians on a special

Fierce border fighting as Eritrea calls for urgent talks

HEAVY FIGHTING erupted By ROSALIND RUSSELL along the Ethiopian-Eritrean in Adigrat frontier yesterday as the Horn of Africa neighbours turned their experienced armies against each other in the latest

stage of their undeclared war. Ethiopia accused Eritrea of launching a major offensive early yesterday. Eritrea in turn said its neighbour had started the latest battle, which included intense shelling, mortar and

Residents of Adigrat, some 15 miles south of the Ethiopian border town Zalambessa, and the last sizeable Ethiopian town before the frontier, were woken

at 5am by the sound of battle. Officials said that villages in between were being pounded by the Eritreans, who were on the offensive with an "incredible array of heavy weapons".

An Ethiopian government spokeswoman said Ethiopian troops had repulsed three attacks in the area. The Entreans insisted, however, that they held the upper hand.

The latest flare-up follows a call by Eritrea for direct talks between the two former friends. Eritrean President Issaias Afewerki told Reuters in an interview in the Eritrean capital, Asmara, that he had no problem with meeting Ethiopia's Prime Minister, Meles Zenawi, but said he feared the conflict would

escalate first Ethiopia rejected the call, saying there could be no negotiations while Eritrea occupied "part of our territory by force". United States proposals call for Eritrean forces to withdraw

to positions held before 6 May and for the demilitarisation of disputed territory.

The row has posed a diplomatic test for the Organisation of African Unity, whose annual summit is currently under way

the Eritrean capital yesterday after the Ethiopian and Eritrean air forces traded bombing raids that killed nearly 50 people and hastened the evacuation of around 2,000 for-

eign nationals from Asmara. Ethiopia's foreign ministry, meanwhile, reported that Eritres had expelled more than 3,000 Ethiopians after confiscating their property and detained over 500 others.

Hostilities erupted on 6 May over a rocky triangle of land which both countries claim, but Ethiopia says economic issues are at the root of the conflict. Eritrea last year introduced its own currency, the nakfa, and wanted it to be directly exchangeable with the Ethiopian burr in cross-border transactions.

Both sides have mobilised veterans of the shared guerrilla struggle which overthrew the Ethiopian military dictator, Mengistu Haile Mariam, in

Eritrea took its independence from Ethiopia after a referendum in 1993 and the two countries were on friendly terms until the border disagreement turned violent.

DONU KOGBARA

President Abacha took pleasure in humiliation, hurting and killing people. He was a sadist and a psychopath

THE WEDNESDAY REVIEW PAGE 4

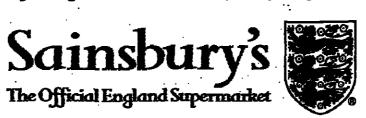
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The American press attempted to play down the bombing of Lebanese refugees sheltering in a UN battalion headquarters at Qana in 1996

US media mirror distorts Middle East

NOT LONG ago, I came across an American colleague of mine in the Marriott Hotel in Cairo.

After three years as Middle East correspondent for his East Coast paper, my friend was leaving Egypt for the States: American editors have a habit of moving their reporters to other beats the moment they have begun to understand the region. So how were things on the paper, I asked?

Usual problems." he replied. "I've just been asked by my paper to stop referring to the right-wing Israeli government'. My editor said he'd been getting lots of complaints from members of the Jewish community back home. So now we just call it 'the Israeli government'." He shrugged his shoulders.

I wasn't surprised. American media coverage of the Middle East has been largely pro-Israeli - and in their cartoons decades, and United States conflict, with honourable exceptions such as the Christian Science Monitor, is bland to the point of tedium.

The State Department line on the Middle East, always skewed toward Israel, has been followed obsequiously by most American reporters. Only weeks after United States diplomats were instructed to refer to the BY ROBERT FISK in Beirut

Israeli-occupied West Bank as "disputed" - rather than "occupied" - territory: American journalists began using precisely the same word.

The explosive issue of Israel's expanding Jewish settlements on occupied land, in contravention of United Nations resolutions and the Oslo agreement, has been turned into an argument over real estate.

Bill Clinton's administration has to take account of extensive American newspaper and television coverage of the region and its pro-Israeli bias. Yet now, with a catastrophe looming and American public opinion desperately in need of an unbiased coverage of events, the same David-and-Goliath story of Israel and the Arabs is of Arabs almost racist - for being regurgitated by press and television. US journalists ity for their country's crumbling policies in the Middle East.

There is nothing new in this lop-sided reporting. After the Sabra and Chatila massacre in 1982, when up to 2,000 Palestinian civilians were slaughtered by Israel's Phalangist allies, Newsweek magazine decided that the death of Princess Grace of Monaco in a road accident

was the more important story; a week later, their cover story reported "Israel in Torment" over the massacres; there was no reference to the "torment" of the Palestinian victims.

Not once were the Sabra and Chatila murderers called "terrorists", which they were by Israel's own definition of the word, presumably because they were allied to the Israeli army.

applied in later years: when Palestinians set off suicide bombs among civilians in Israel, the American press universally called the culprits "terrorists", which they assuredly were. But when an Israeli slaughtered 29 innocent Palestinian worshippers in a Hebron mosque, the US media called the murderer a "fanatic", an "extremist" or, a new and popular word found increasingly in the American press, a "zealot". Even the assassin of Israeli prime minister Yitzhak

never called a "terrorist". In this, American journalists have fallen into line with Israeli law. Only last month the family of a Palestinian named Khairi Moussa, who was stabbed to death by an ultra-Orthodox Jew, was refused state compensation because, under Israeli law, an Arab killed by a Jew cannot be considered a vic-

Jew killed by an Arab can be. (Needless to say, scarcely any space was devoted to this extraordinary court case in the pages of US newspapers.)

Similar attempts to play down Israel's responsibility for killings in the Middle East could be identified in 1996 when Israeli artillery slaughtered 106 Lebanese refugees sheltering in a UN battalion headquarters The same double standards at Qana in southern Lebanon. The Israelis claimed they were firing at Hizbollah guerrillas 600 feet from the base - not a single Israeli was hurt and the Hizbollah were firing at a hill to the south of Qana. But beneath a photograph of one of the \$5 children massacred by the Israelis, Time magazine reported that the small victim had been "killed in crossfire" - a palpable untruth.

In one of the most extraordinary reports of its kind ever written, the New York Times days before Qana - of four children and two women when an Israeli helicopter fired a missile into an ambulance in southern Lebanon; not until the sixth paragraph of his report next day did the paper's Jerusalem correspondent, Serge Schmemann, tell his readers about the atrocity. Earlier paragraphs of

tim of "terrorism", although a power failure in a bombarded ed" hill as Har Homa - giving Israeli town and a statistic of 24 dead in Lebanon "including one Israeli soldier".

The Washington Post's reporter John Lancaster later investigated the ambulance attack, reporting that the driver was "disputing" [sic] Israel's claim, a false one as it turned out, that the vehicle was owned by the Hizbollah. But the paper did not question how Israel could break the rules of war by firing at a clearly marked ambulance. The New York Times later ran a syndicated account from an Israeli paper of an Israeli soldier's life in Qana before the massacre: but the New York Times deleted a paragraph about how the Israeli troops had stolen cars from their Lebanese owners and looted houses - thus even censoring the Israeli press.

Time magazine enthusiastically took up the use of the word "disputed" for the Jewish setyear, it was able to report on how Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "turns up the heat by okaying [sic] new houses [sic] in disputed [sic] territory". When Mr Netanyahu ordered work to begin on a new settlement on a hill outside east Jerusalem early this year, almost every American news his report included news of a outlet referred to the "disput- to compare killing people with

the location its Jewish identity but usually ignoring its Arab name. Jebel Abu Ghoneim.

The use of the misleading word "disputed" has, sadly. turned up on the BBC, along with references to settlements as "neighbourhoods" and "communities", as if their occupants were ordinary property buyers rather than fanatical, armed religious Jews who believe God gave them the territory. As long ago as 1995, Jerrold Kessel was reporting on a set-

tlement "dispute" on CNN in which he referred to Jews talking of "heritage claims going back hundreds of years". But "heritage claims" differ mightit: the Palestinian one is based or land deeds and documents of ownership, the Israeli one on theology and an apparent conviction that God had bequeathed Israel the Arab land.

History continues to be shortchanged in the American media. alised that the Oslo "peace process" was dead, US reporters continued to write about on track", and wrote glowing articles about the supposedly tough-talking US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, even after she told a press conference in Jerusalem that it was wrong

Australia

18p

"building houses", her own bland reference to Jewish settlements on occupied land.

In Paris, Le Monde was last

month warning its readers that

Mr Netanyahu and US House

speaker Newt Gingrich were "dangerous" men. But in the New York Times, the increasingly messianic Thomas Friedman, an old colleague and friend of mine, was telling his readers that there was "a potentially great statesman" inside Mr Netanyahu who "deserves credit for the fact that there has been relatively little Palestinian terrorism [sic] these past two years". After one terrible suicide bombing in Jerusalem, the mother of an Israeli girl victim wrote that it was Mr Netanyahu's policies rather than the Palestinians who had killed her daughter. The Los Angeles Times put the bombing on page

able statement on page five. Academics may one day depublic has been misled by the persistent bias of the US media, and the degree to which this has putting the peace process "back led them to support US policies which may destroy America's prestige in the Middle East.

one, and the mother's remark-

Meanwhile, US reporters are going to have to figure out a way of telling readers and viewers how a "dispute" over "neighbourhoods" is turning into war.

SWIFTCALL

LOW COST INTERNATIONAL CALLS

Yeltsin opposes force in Kosovo

BY IMRE KARACS IN BONN

PRESIDENT BORIS Yeltsin signalled yesterday that Russis would oppose any outside military intervention in Serbia's

Kosovo province. On a visit to Bonn, Mr Yeltsin and ministers accompanying him also spoke out against economic sanctions imposed by the European Union this week on Belgrade. though Moscow did pledge to use its influence with President Slobodan Milosevic.

"A further escalation of the tensions and interference from outside forces threaten to broaden the conflict beyond the borders," Mr Yeltsin said. "That leads to destabilisation of the Balkans, with unforeseen consequences for the whole of Europe.

While refusing to be drawn into discussions about Russia's proposed solution, President Yeltsin offered to lean on Belgrade. His German host Chancellor Helmut Kohi, said the Russian President was prepared to "use his big influence in Belgrade so the bloodshed ends as quickly as possible".

Mr Yeltsin refused to divulge what he would be saying to Mr Milosevic. "The more softly I speak, the better the chances of a meeting," he said. "We will meet and discuss how to get out of this situation without getting into a big war."

Throughout the 1992-95 conflict in Bosnia. Moscow tried to shield the Serbs from Western anger, and it seems set to



Yeltsin: to lean on Serbia

pursue the same policy over Kosovo. Germany's efforts to certed action in the Balkans appear to have had little success. Yevgeny Primakov, the Russian Foreign Minister, even declared that Moscow would not be joining the latest EU sanctions against Belgrade. The EU and the United States on Monday slapped a ban on all invest-

ments in Serbia. In Brussels, Nato defence ministers are to meet tomorrow for discussions certain to be dominated by Kosovo. It is expected they will order the military to start looking at direct intervention in Kosovo.

Alarmed by the mounting violence in Kosovo, Nato may be willing to consider intervening in Kosovo's airspace, and imposing a "no fly" zone, a senior alliance diplomat said yesterday.

Although Russian opposition means the UN Security Council is unlikely to adopt any resolution authorising intervention, Nato officials say there are other legal bases for conducting such an operation, though they are vague about exactly what they are "If we can't get that resolution, we'll have to find another legal basis to act, if action is necessary, said one senior official.

In a diplomatic blow to Bel-grade, Balkan foreign ministers from Albania, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Romania, Turkey and Serbia's traditional ally, Greece, meeting in Istanbul, condemned Serbia's police action in Kosovo and endorsed the EU sanctions.

In Albania, the number of ethnic Albanian refugees fleeing to northern Albania to escape violence in Kosovo appeared to have stabilised at around 200 to 300 people per day, well down on levels when the influx started 10 days ago. The total number of refugees who have fled military operations by Serbian security forces is estimated at between 10,000 and 15,000.

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N. Zealand

Yeltsin
Opposes
force in

Kosovo



A stolemason works on one of the heavy sandstone blocks for the proposed Hindu temple in Ayodhya, northern India

Kashmiri minefield

INDIA may claim to detect UN BY RUPERT CORNWELL Security Council backing for its position in the dispute with Pakistan over Kashmir. But a gun battle on Monday night in solutions" to address "the root which Indian troops shot dead causes" of the tensions befour separatists only under- tween them, "including Kashscores how, more than half a mir". For Delhi, however, what century after Partition, the matters is what wasn't there: quarre! over the territory - a prime ingredient in the nu- ation to resolve the dispute. clear arms race on the subcontinent - is more intractable and dangerous than ever.

According to an Indian army spokesman vesterday, the fighting took place near the border with Pakistan, which Delhi accuses of arming and training Kashmiri separatists who want independence for the predominantly Muslim territory or unification with Pakistan. The guerrillas are the latest to die in an insurgency which has cost perhaps 25,000 lives since

make the United Nations resolution, passed on Saturday night an innocuous statement

countries to resume dialogue and to find "mutually acceptable any reference to outside medi-

Hitherto, the UN's formal stand on Kashmir has been its resolution of August 1948, demanding that both India and Pakistan withdraw most of their troops from the territory they had fought over that year. ahead of a plebiscite administered by the UN.

Ever since, Pakistan has clung to that formula, partly out of confidence that the Muslim majority in Kashmir would vote its way in any plebiscite, and partly because it was unlikely to prevail in one-on-one talks with All of which would seem to a more powerful neighbour. That is precisely why India rejects what it sees as outside meddling, and insists a solution must be found by the protago-

nists alone. Purely bilateral talks would be "firtile". Pakistan's foreign minister, Gohar Avub Khan, reiterated vesterday.

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In fact it is not clear the UN has given up all aspirations to mediate a dispute arguably more likely than any other to go nuclear. Although the five permanent members of the Security Council made no explicit they met last week to press India and Pakistan to drop their nuclear ambitions, the subtext told a different story.

The five - Britain, the United States, France, Russia and China - undertook to "do all they could do to facilitate a reduction of tensions", and provide "assistance, at the request mentation of confidence, and security-building measures". Which sounds very much like a mediation offer which dare not

• Temple to rise on rubble of mosque

IDIA'S MOST contentious buil- BY PETER POPHAM dig project, the temple to Ram wich Hindu nationalists want tderect on the god's alleged bthplace, has been secretly utler construction for the past seen years, India was stunned toliscover last week. The arfothe huge Hindu temple, the erence to Ayodhya was dropped Suminarayan, in Neasden, from the government's prongth London.

he intended site of the temzoe. This is the spot where in 199 the destruction of an anciet mosque, the Babri Masjid, by he nationalists, sparked communal rioting which took hunreds of lives. Today the site is shouded in barbed wire and dottil with watchtowers. The mosue ruins are patrolled by soldirs 24-hours a day.

Wek began, it has been reveald, at the end of 1991, with just ght craftsmen. In 1995, with hore than £1m in contribution amassed, work began in earnet. Three firms of stone masos, two in Rajasthan and one in Uttar Pradesh, are prefabricating the decorated sandtone blocks with which the empl will be constructed.

At one of the three sites, at karsejakpuram in Uttar Pradsh, only three miles from the isputed site, stone-cutting mahines slice huge lumps of andstone into columns, and 50 artisans chisel the forms of ods, goddesses and decorative ills and furbelows on to them. The news of the Ayodhya emple's surreptitious conruction, revealed by the Week dagazine, has shocked the opdition parties and thrown te nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party-led government, so reently flush with its nuclear edip, on to its back foot.

The general-secretary of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), one of the extremist Hindu organisations devoted to building the temple, added fuel to the fire, saying actual construction of the temple could start withn two years, and would be iniiated whether or not the BJP s still in power in Delhi.

"No power on earth," he said. not even the Supreme Court. an stop the VHP from building Ram temple at Ayodhya."

Militant statements like this eve sent BJP ministers scuting for cover. The building of te Ram temple was a central pank of the BJP's election ranifesto - the home minister al Krishna Advani and other

BJP ministers face criminal charges for their role in the mosque's demolition.

But, to fashion a "national agenda" acceptable to all its discitiect is the man responsible parate coalition partners, all refgramme. In response, the leading Congress politician Rajesh, plain the north-Indian town of Pilot demanded to know Aydhya, resembles a war whether the government was and, perhaps in protest at the fact that it probably is, the opposition walked out.

The site of the temple which the VHP and its allies wish to build at Ayodhya is one of the strangest and most disturbing plots of land in the country. Drawn by the controversy, and perhaps also by pious feelings towards the god Ram, aggressive Indian chauvinists are thick on the ground: it may be the only place in India where a white man feels distinctly unwanted and implicitly under threat.

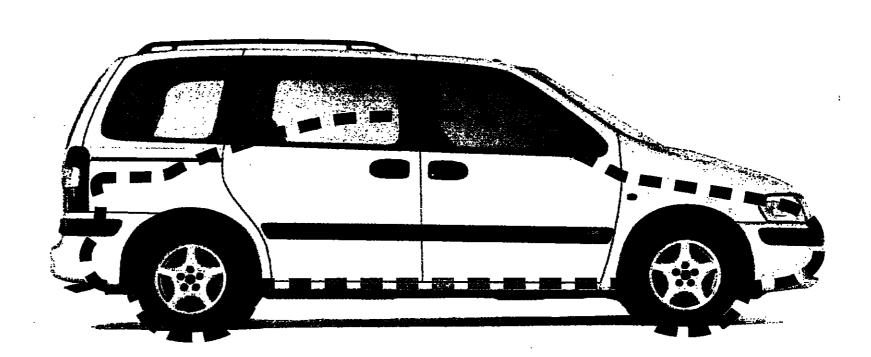
Wracked by one invasion after another over the past millennium, Ayodhya looks as if it has reconciled itself to living amidst the ruins. It is dusty, shabby, decrepit, uncared for.

Only after thorough and se rious security checks is one allowed to proceed to "darshan" - "god-viewing" - at the small white tent containing an image of the god Ram which the zealots erected following the demolition of the mosque. After a couple of seconds, one is prodded forward. The pilgrimage is over.

Ayodhya is tense because more than anywhere in India, it is where the communal energy of the Hindu nationalists has been concentrated: it is where they have chosen to stand and fight. The VHP has built Ram up into a mighty ruler, and thus the symbol of the nation.

The substance of the Hindu complaint is true: Muslim invaders did, in their own intolerant zealotry, destroy many Hindu temples, and sometimes built mosques on the same sites. Ayodhya is where the militant Hindus - by no means representative of all practitioners of the religion - plan to get their grand revenge.

The Ram temple is intended to be four times the size of London's, so its building will be a correspondingly greater challenge - especially if it is done in the teeth of bitter opposition. How it looks. How it feels.



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Mandelson teases French Left

By John Lichfield

LONG BEFORE he became president of France, François Mitterrand visited a Labour Party conference in Blackpool. After enduring a couple of days of block votes and fish suppers. he made a dash for home. On the way to Heathrow Airport, west of London, he asked the chauffeur to divert to Kew Gardens. "I cannot leave England," he said, "without having seen something of elegance and beauty ...

We are now just over one year into an era of left-of-centre governments on both sides of the Channel; the first time for 50 years that experiments in socialism (if new Labour will forgive the word) have been conducted simultaneously in France and Britain.

Peter Mandelson, the minister without portfolio and the master-tactician of the Blair government, was at the National Assembly in Paris yesterday to mark the anniversary. He had been invited to debate with his French alter ego. François Hollande, general secretary of the Socialist Party, the similarities and differences between Blairism and Jospinism.

It was a fascinating debate, except that both men supported the same proposition: that the two governments are pursuing similar policies in two very different countries, which are perhaps not so different in the end, "Britain and France have much in common. Blair and Jospin have even more in common, perhaps more than people realise even now," Mr Mandelson said. "Both Blair and Jospin have succeeded in restoring confidence in politics and confidence in politicians," said Mr Hollande.

Not much scope for controversy there, then. What has become of the fraternal jealousies between the Labour Party and the Parti Socialiste? A few months ago some new Labourpeople were making snide remarks about the "old Labour" Jospinists with their 35-hour weeks; and some French Socialists (notably Martine Aubry, the employment minister) could not disguise their exasperation with the born-again evangelism of new Labour.

Since then. Tony Blair's triumphant domination of British



vals. The two parties have set up study groups on social exclusion and the future of the European Union. Unlike the mutually uncom-

prehending British and French tent success. The French econsocialist politicians of recent omy is humming (give or take a few strikes); unemployment history (witness the Mitterrand anecdote) the Blairists is falling; Mr Jospin has highand Jospinists appear to be er poll ratings (just over 60 per easy in each other's company. The great exceptions are the two finance ministers. Gordon recorded after a year in office. The two governments, Brown and Dominique Strausswhether they admit it or not, re-Kahn, who do not get on.

main rivals in an undeclared Mr Mandelson, talking briefly after yesterday's lecrace to invent an intelligent, ture, admitted that "things got durable new formula for left-ofcentre European politics in the off on the wrong foot" between the two governments last year: next century. But they seem, inor at least in the media precreasingly, to be friendly ri-

politics has continued, with

only a few dents and doubts: Li-

onel Jospin, against all expec-

tations (in Britain at any rate)

has become a quietly compe-

cent) than any other French

prime minister has ever

sentation of relations between the two. "That's why today's event was important." he said, unable to resist the temptation to "spin" a journalist, wherever he might find one.

But just how similar are

Blairism and Jospinism? Messrs Mandelson and Hollande put up strong arguments for the family likenesses. Both governments are committed to educational reform as the strategic weapon of economic success in the next century; both have introduced programmes of youth job creation; Mr Blair plans a French-style minimum wage, Mr Jospin talks of encouraging economic dynamism while maintaining

ditto, while talking of maintaining "a strong community". Both men are trying to push

through constitutional reforms which would modernise their countries' democratic systems. Both men have been lucky in strong economies and the hopeless state of their oppositions. But there are equally telling

differences. In a sense, there has been a bizarre reversal of the traditional British and French roles. It is Mr Jospin who is the true steady-as-we-go pragmatist: Mr Blair is the ideologue. fond of sweeping phrases. Mr Blair inherited a boom-

ing economy, in which many of the blockages which still afflict

by the Thatcherist pain cure of the Eighties. He also came to power with a huge majority of one party. Mr Jospin inherits a French system which is permanently attempting reform and permanently fearful of re-

of socialists, of various independent persuasions. Communists and Greens. Mr Blair has applied a grand design to a clean page: Mr Jospin has been forced to tinker, fudging here, taking a bold

decision there. Given these differences, it is remarkable how many similarities have emerged between the pro-

grammes of the two govern-

"social solidarity"; Mr Blair France had been cleared away ments. (The main differences remain over labour market policy, with Mr Jospin heavily committed to the interventionist, 35-hour week.)

If the Social Democrats

come to power, as expected, in Germany in September, all of form. His majority is a coalition Western Europe's big three nations will have centre-left governments for the first time in EU history. In terms of dash, glamour and self-publicity, Blairism will be the model for the SPD's chancellor candidate, Gerhard Schröder. But he will inherit problems closer to those of France - a parliamentary coalition, a top-heavy state. He may end up governing more

like a Jospin.

Blair says ideas are reforming **Europe**

By Katherine Butler in Brussels

A POLITICAL hijacking whi would mar next week's sho piece European Union sumr in Cardiff would be Tony Blairs worst nightmare come tre. Yesterday, he moved to prevut such a drama by throwing is weight behind a new Franc-German initiative to bring h rope closer to the people.

After the fractious scens which turned last month's Br# sels summit on the European Central Bank – the first uner his chairmanship - into a pblic relations fiasco, the Prine Minister is determined to ad his six months as Europe's president on a high note.

He clearly sees his best bot in a new mood emanating fort Germany, and backed by France, which rejects the notice of a European superstate which local and regional dver sity would be obliterated.

In Brussels, Mr Blair point ed to a letter from the Gents and French leaders to underlin what he sees as the growing ap petite on the continent for two Blair inventions. One is a rem edy for a Europe "too remote to be relevant to its people; the other is the vision of a Europe wide model of employment which is "modern adaptable and flexible" not stultified by regulation and red tape.

In the letter, intended by Chancellor Kohl of Germany and the French President Jacques Chirac to set the agenda for the Cardiff summit, the leaders rejected further cen tralised decision making.

Mr Blair said he is now convinced that British ideas are having an effect. "There is a gathering consensus behind the idea of a reformed vision of a Europe for the future. People are seeing that that is the only way to make it work".

A list of "no go" areas could be drawn up which would reassure people that Brussels will never be given power to legislate such as on income tax or education policy or as Mr Blair hopes, on the rights of workers to be informed and consulted.

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Mystery virus kilis 31 children in Taiwan

BY STEPHEN VINES in Taipei

A MYSTERIOUS viral disease is sweeping across Taiwan, claiming the lives of children under five years of age. Yesterday it claimed its 31st victim. Up to half a million children could be infected by the virus. Some suffer symptoms no more disturbing than those associated with a heavy cold, but others are struck by serious infections of the heart and lungs, or even sudden and seemingly inexplicable death.

In the capital, Taipei, the government yesterday called together specialists, doctors and regional representatives from throughout the country to meet representatives from the United States-based Centres for Disease Control to plan their next move in fighting the dis-

"This is a disease without a vaccine, so how can you prevent it? It's a disease without a medicine, so how can you treat it?" asked Dr Wang Lih-Shinn, the director general of the health department's Bureau of Communicable Disease Control.

Across the country parents are keeping their children away from nursery schools, while a health department hotline has been besieged. Clinics are full of anxious parents concerned that their children may succumb to the disease.

"We are very worried about this disease," says Sherry Chien, a mother of two small boys. Her youngest, aged four, developed a cold last week. The family rushed him off to hospital for a check. Fortunately it proved to be no more than a common cold, but this virus can manifest itself as a cold in the early stages. Some of those who died did so within hours of showing cold symptoms as the virus sped through their bodies attacking the vital organs and central nervous system.

"This is really an epidemic now," says Hsu Kwo-Hsiung,



A stricken six-mouth-old baby in Taipei

the spokesman for the health department's crisis team. He explains that the disease can be contracted orally, by person-toperson contact, and is airborne, making it highly contagious. The local media has been saying that the virus is of the enterovirus type 71 which spread across Malaysia last year and emerged in Bulgaria and Hungary during the 1970s. However Dr Umesh Parashar an epidemiologist from the Centres for Disease Control, insists that it is too early to say what the virus is or whether, as some doctors believe, it is a collection

of viruses. Intestinal viral diseases are common during the late spring and early summer in Taiwan but usually pass without leav-ing fatalities. According to Dr Wang, at any time some 30 per cent of the population will have enterovirus in their bodies but in most cases it does not cause illness. It is highly problematic to screen potential victims of these viruses because it is impossible to tell which people will he affected by them in a serious or lethal way.

This virus, or combination of

viruses, is hitting the very young because they have not developed the immunity which builds up in older people. Of the 145 patients admitted to hospital, 20 per cent have died and 65 were discharged.
The first fatality occurred on
15 May in the centre of Taiwan.

Other deaths and reports of viral infection soon flowed in. Nursery schools across the country shut their doors to avoid the spread of infection. Parents were warned not to take their children to crowded places and to be extra vigilant about personal hygiene.

The initial panic has been brought under control but parents and child care workers remain vigilant. "Parents are very worried," says Yen Su-Chen, the principal of the Weili Kindergarten in Taipei. "They ask me how they should handle this." She tells them to make sure their children wash their hands and if they show the slightest signs of illness, not to bring them to the nursery. Two children out of the 76 attending the kindergarten have been affected, though there have been no fatalities.

Parents arriving to collect their children from Weili ysterday evening were taking to chances. Chao Chuen says tlat she is not relying on the gyernment to solve the problen. "We must do what is necessay ourselves," she says.

Apparent government inction is stirring up a political storm, which the active opposition parties are quick to exploit. An editorial in the usually progovernment China Times said that the government "has failed to come up with an effective and concrete package to calm down panic-stricken parents and stop the spread of the virus".

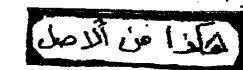
At first the government sought to calm fears by suggesting that the outbreak was not serious. It then promised that it would end quickly. The public was not convinced. People are not satisfied

with what we have done," concedes Dr Wang, but he asks what they expect to be done in stopping the spread of an unknown virus with no known

The only comfort to be drawn from this viral epidemic, according to Dr Parashar, is that outbreaks of this kind do not tend to last very long. If it turns out to be the enterovirus type 71, and it follows the pattern established in Malaysia last year, he says, it should go away soon. Meanwhile practically every

day brings news of at least one new fatality. The unease is growing and small children are seen much less frequently in public places. Houses are being cleaned as

they have never been cleaned before. Even though precautions are being taken, the uncertainty about the disease looms ominously over Taiwan, which has had its share of typhoid, cholera and denge fever outbreaks, all of which caused fatalities. However, when those epidemics came around, doctors at least knew what they were dealing with.



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empire punded in the 1960s by their Polish mmigrant father. Alici Koplowitz announced six month ago she was led up with the whole ping and wanted to sell her 28 percent share, sending Spain's might bankocracy into a frenzied pursu of buyers.

Buthe other day sister Esther decidd to fork out herself the 136.60 necessary pesetas (£570m)

to kep the firm in the family. The deal made Alicia, 45, the richet woman in Spain and Esther, 47, the most powerful, and sprayed Dynsty-style photos of both across the overs of every glossy magazine in the country.

yars back they were rated by Haper's and Queen magazine the ighth and ninth richest women in lurope, and Fortune magazine estmated their joint wealth at U.2.2bn dollars (£1.34bn), among th world's top 200. Yet neither

EUROPEAN MADRID

woman was groomed for the cutthroat world of business and high

Orphaned when their father Ernesto fell fatally from his horse in 1962, the two sisters married at 18 and 20 to two cousins, both called Alberto. The "two Albertos" ran the company ConyCon (Constructions and Contracts) and the sisters stayed at home as dutiful wives and mothers.

The company flourished and the Albertos became rich and powerful. But in 1988, in a twist that a soap-opera scriptwriter might have discarded as too improbable, Alicia was devastated to discover her Alberto (Cortina) carrying on with a Esther found her Alberto (Alcocer) embroiled with a former model, whom he subsequently married. Both affairs were minutely dis-



Spain's most powerful woman Esther Koplowitz and her former husband Alberto Alcocer Samano Rapa/Select

marquesa, Marta Chavarri, while sected by Spain's voracious gossip

At a stroke, each sister promptly divorced her husband and in 1990. Esther and Alicia emerged from the

drawing room into the boardroom to take over the running of the company - now called FCC (Fomento de Construcciones y Contratas) themselves. Operating as one, the trademark elegant suits, smart you could invent.

earrings and decolletages. Various Spanish and international companies were circling predatorily around Alicia's juicy share at the moment Esther stepped in to prevent the possible break-up of the family firm.

As any convincing family saga have been engineered by the solicitous Albertos, eager to protect the interests of their offspring. Esther has three daughters, Alicia three sons, several of whom have important positions in the Koplowitz empire.

Will the two sisters start talking to each other again? Which of Spain's powerful banks will be favoured with the investment of Alicia's windfall fortune? Can Esther prosper on her own in the sharkinfested world of Spanish cement? Will the clans of cousins shed blood over their mothers' dazzling inheritance? Stay tuned.

Pulp novelists tempted to appropriate this promising material

pair crisply presided over weekly should be warned that the real-life pled plaintiff: "Making a false condirectors' meetings with their tale has so far superseded anything

Talking of inventions, the former interior minister in Felipe Gonzalez's first socialist government, Jose Barrionuevo, has been protesting his innocence before the Supreme Court this week against accusations of conducting illegal undercover operations would dictate, the deal seems to against suspected Basque separatists. Mr Barrionuevo faces 23 years in jail, and 11 of his former security chiefs and policemen also

face hefty jail sentences. Mr Barrionuevo's behaviour has been curious. He denies the accusations of organising gangs of hitmen, paying them with state funds and authorising the kidnapping of at least one innocent French businessman, as "pure invention". Nothing surprising in that. But he then says he is prepared to assume all the responsibility, even for things he says did not happen, to let his former colleagues off the

This prompted one cartoonist to portray a judge advising his crumfession is one thing, but you don't need to swear to the court that you will do so."

Also in trouble with the courts is Francisco Franco, the dictator's grandson. The Civil Guard hauled him up recently for hunting offences: toting a shotgun in the closed season, and hunting without a permit. Caught in the act, it seems Francisco junior threw a punch or two.

What seems to have most riled him was that the official did the natural thing under the circumstances and asked the offender to show his identity card. Mr Franco bears his grandfather's name because his mother, General Franco's daughter, illegally flouted strict regulations governing Spanish surnames in order to perpetuate her father's memory:

The paramilitary plod reported that the heir to the generalissimo who governed with iron discipline for 40 years retorted: "Are you mad or something? I'm off."

ELIZABETH NASH

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Roweena Hickson, left, with Stacy and Vicky, with whom she is setting up a support group for women seeking to escape from polygamous relationships Fred Hayes

Mormon wives lift veil on the miseries of polygamy

BOX ELICR County, in the far By DAVID USBORNE north-wet corner of Utah, above th Great Salt Lake, is only spasely populated. But it gets its hare of crime. When the telepone started ringing in the coulty sheriff's office at 3am thre Sundays ago it was a fair ht someone out there

was in fouble. With broken nose and her legs alt arms swollen with bruise a 16-year-old girl had strugged seven miles to a petrolktation to find a telephone She had been beaten and aandoned by her father, she sid. But the girl began to fill in he details only reluctantly. and arer hours of interviews at the seriff's office. After driving 90 mies from their home south of Sa Lake City, her father had takether to a remote barn. He had miched her repeatedly and whopped her about 20 times

with a eather belt The she gave her father's name. 'he police knew it. It was John Ianiel Kingston, patriarch obne the largest polygamist clas in Utah. The girl said he hadattacked her because she didnot want to be the 15th wife of is brother, whom she had bee forced to marry after her 16thbirthday. The beating was ment as punishment after she hadun away from her husband/unle for a second time. "She lidn't want to pursue

chargeand she didn't want to give us my names, "explained Detectiv Scott Cosgrave, head of the ivestigation. All she wanted vas to be allowed to lead a ormal life for a 16year-oldgo to school and not be the 1th wife of a man she doesn't ant to be married to."

Final; though, she agreed that chages could be pressed. Last Trisday, hours before a court-sedeadline, Mr Kingston surrenered to the sheriff and was reased on \$10,000 bail. Later is week, he will appear

in Salt Lake City

in court to be formally charged with child abuse.

His trial, however, will be about much more. It promises to lift the lid on Utah's most awkward secret. Polygamy, imported into the state by Mormon pioneers 150 years ago, is alive and well.

We know little about Utah's polygamists because no one wants to talk about them. They are an anathema to the mainstream Mormon Church, formerly the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints. which banned polygamy in 1904 and dissociates itself from the fundamentalist Mormons still practising it.

Likewise, polygamists represent an acute embarrassment to a state that will stage the Winter Olympics in 2002 and which cultivates an image of prosperity and modernity. According to some experts, polygamy is still practised by 50,000 to 60,000 fimdamentalists in Utah. While it is technically against the law the authorities have preferred not to prosecute, opting always to turn a very de-

liberate blind eye. There are other reasons for the reluctance. Polygamous families are secretive and selfreliant, perhaps paranoid, and skilled at deflecting outsiders, police investigators especially. "They don't like the spotlight and they don't like attention," Det Cosgrove said. "They make it very difficult for us, giving us phoney addresses and things like that. Basically, they want us

to believe they don't exist." Polygamist men, who sometimes have 20 wives or more, have circumvented the law by registering only the first of their marriages with the civil cousin of John Daniel, Leon still authorities. Their subsequent has one other wife, Roweena's marriages are conducted in elder sister. For four years, she Cosgrove, have been under



Polygamist Alex Joseph and his nine wives Tom Smart

band plural families would hit delicate constitutional issues likely to go all the way to the Supreme Court.

With the Kingston incident, however, the authorities suddenly found themselves not only with an opportunity to start turning over the polygamist stone, but an obligation to do so. The case, after all, is about abuse. Abuse of women is what most of us think about in connection with polygamy.

That and sex. "I'll tell you what polygamy is in a nutshell; it's one big eternal fuck in the name of God," spat Roweena Erickson last week. "No more, no less."

Ms Erickson, 58, should know. In 1994, she fled the Kingston clan with eight children after 34 years of marriage to Leon Kingston, son of the group's founder and a

secret. Moreover, any attempt has been trying to get someone, to enforce the law and to dis- anyone, to listen to her story and to take action against the

Kingstons. Last week, she told

it to The Independent. The picture painted by Ms Erickson confirms our deepest suspicions. Child molestation, kinky sex, pornography and incest all feature. So do genetic disorders. The clans, Ms Erickson says, have high rates of Pam, 38, Wendy, 33, Monique, 27, dwarfism and macrocephalous (enlarged) heads. She adds also organised crime, violence, extortion and even murder.

"It's a bad, sick cult and they're sexually deviant. Mothers will give the wives of their sons vibrators, because they know their sons will not always be there for them. They make porno movies. The wives perform deviant sexual acts with the children. I heard of a father who does his son's impregnat-

ing because his son is sterile." Believed to have business assets worth af least \$150m, the Kingstons, according to Det scrutiny by federal law enforcement agencies for some time. Illegal gambling, for example, is suspected. But Ms Erickson believes there is more. "I saw the illegal activities going on, I had heard rumours

that they had mafia connections, which I believe they do, and I had heard that they had had people bumped off. And I believe they are laundering money for the 'Mormon Mafia' in Las Vegas". It took years for Ms Erickson

to realise that her religious beliefs, which included the notion that polygamy was a prerequisite for the attainment of eternal celestial bliss - was not enough to sustain her. "I was thinking, if this is so wonderful. why do I feel so horrible? Why is my gut telling me something is amiss?" Finally, she went and told Leon: "I'm not living this god-damned fuck-up polygamy any more." And she left.

Public relations is not a skill widely held by polygamists. But, conscious of the bad publicity from the Kingston case, Bart Malstrom, the husband of four wives and 12 children, agreed to talk. On rainy afternoon in Fairview, two hours south of Salt Lake, Bart, 39, and Nicole, 23, (these last two are also sisters) gathered in the living room in one of their three houses clustered together to ex-

plain the joy of their life. On the face of it, it was a convincing display. The children, ranging in age from seven months to 17 years, made the occasional appearance.

The family survives by manufacturing and marketing a herbal, medicinal tincture and growing their own vegetables. Their church, one of many splinter fundamentalist Mormon churches that still en-True and Living Church of on both hands.

Jesus Christ of Last Day

Saints". "It's a sad thing any time that a father would abuse any child," offered Bart, an imposing figure at 6ft4in, in a sweat-shirt bearing the slogan: "Help us to Stamp Out Monogamy". "Because this one happens to be a polygamous, it hits the papers a little bit harder. But child abuse is not anything out of the ordinary in the society we live in. The fact that it was in a plural marriage has got nothing to

Pam sees hypocrisy and double standards in our fear of polygamy. "People accept so people living together, male with male, female with female, everyone going to bed with whomever they want, but they can't accept plural marriage."

It is Monique, perhaps the most reticent of the wives, who explodes at the notion that anyone would attempt to break up their apparently happy fivesome. "This is our family. He is the father of our children, he's our husband, this is our family. We have nowhere else to go We take care of our needs, we don't bother anybody. If you met one of us on the street you wouldn't even know we were po-

lygamist." True enough. None of this will impress Ms Erickson, who, with two friends, is setting up a support group in Salt Lake City for women looking to escape from polygamous situations. They have named it

Tapestry of Polygamy. With all the publicity from Box Elder County, she hopes her own story will at last get some attention. Might the evil she sees at the heart of the Kingston clan finally be extinguished? The prospect is too sweet for her to put into words. Tears welling up, she simply courages polygamy is called the leans back and crosses fingers

Missile threat pushes Cyprus towards war

The consensus last night was, probably not. But if Russia has. in fact, already delivered the long-promised S-300 missiles to Cyprus, then a full-scale showdown between Greece land has moved a giant step

front-page article in the Russian newspaper Sevodnya yesterday, claiming that the state-of-the-art missiles had already been shipped, at least two months before the August sound (Mach 6), they have a or September date previously range of between 15 and 30 signalled by the government in Nicosia.

Greece, Cyprus and Russia all refused to comment on the report, written by the paper's highly regarded defence correspondent, Pavel Felgenheuer. "The very nature of the matter Turkey's strategic superiority. demands that the issue is kept ensured by 35,000 troops garout of the limelight," Christos

ernment spokesman, said. Turkey, however, which has several times announced that it would destroy the missiles if all-out war, the Greek Cypriot they arrived on Cyprus soil, threw cold water on the suggestion. "This couldn't have trast, is 500 miles away. been done without our knowledge," a foreign ministry official told the semi-official Anatolian News Agency, "We are watching very closely." And on balance, experts are inclined to

The missiles, fired from tubes mounted on special transporters, measure some 7m (23ft) in length. Along with the radar required to operate them, they could be ferried into Cyprus aboard a large transport aircraft. Once unloaded, however, "it wouldn't be too long before someone noticed", a London-based defence

analyst said yesterday. If they have arrived, the news would dismay not only Turkey,

HAVE THEY or haven't they? BY RUPERT CORNWELL

of the 1960 treaties setting an independent Cyprus, and the United States, who all argue that they would upset an already tense regional balance of forces and Turkey over the divided is- around the most heavily militarised island in the world.

The S-300s are as modern The confusion began with a an air-defence weapon as they come, compared with the Patriot anti-aircraft and antimissile system of the US. Highly mobile and reaching a speed of six times the speed of miles, and are effective against aircraft at altitudes of up to 100,000ft.

The question is, what military purpose do they serve? However irritating to Ankara, the missiles would not even dent risoned in the Turkish statelet in northern Cyprus (TRNC) and by the mere 40 miles separating Cyprus from the Turkish mainland. In the event of two-thirds of the island would be overrun. Greece proper, by con-

And even unused, the S-300s are an unwanted extra ingredient in the Greco-Turkish feud, and the connected problems of disputed islands in the Aegean. the search for a Cyprus settlement, the mooted accession of Cyprus to the European Union, and Turkey's own anger at the refusal of the EU to accept its candidacy for membership.

Earlier this year, the US envoy Richard Holbrooke, architect of the 1995 Dayton accords on Bosnia, attempted to break the logiam, offering cancellation of the S-300 deal for Turkish Cyprus joining in the EU negotiations. But Rauf Denktash, 80-year-old President of the TRNC, barely gave but Britain, a guarantor power him the time of day.

Top Russian officials many different lifestyles today: held on tax charges

RUSSIAS top number-cruncher faces charges of fiddling his books to help big companies evade tax, after the security services found more than a \$1m in a Soviet-era bureaucracy know cash hidden in his Moscow apartment.

head of the State Statistics pounced on Monday night. Committee, and more than 20 of his subordinates, mark the biggest criminal scandal involving top officials here for months.

The timing of the arrests looks deliberate, as they coincide with a renewed attempt by the government to cajole big firms and rich Russians into paying tax, and to clean up the widespread corruption in the bureaucracy.

Low tax revenue was cited as one of the causes of the recent bout of market panic over Russia's economy which almost led to the crash of the rouble, and prompted the

government temporarily to raise interest rates to 150 per cent. It is also one reason why millions of workers have been receiving wages up to 10 months late.

After keeping Mr Yurkov

By PHIL REEVES

and others from the committee. as Goskomsta, under surveillance for at least a year, the Fed-The arrests of Yuri Yurkov, eral Security Service (FSB)

The FSB declared that the accused had been distorting data on large firms, allowing them to evade tax. They had also been selling information to competitors, the agency said.

Anxious to demonstrate that a purge is under way, the FSB released a videotape purporting to show more than \$1.5m m new dollar bills found in the suspects' apartments, mostly in Mr Yurkov's, A "wealth of jewels" was also found, the agency

Last month, President Boris Yeltsin fired the head of his tax service, replacing him with Boris Fyodorov, a former finance minister:

Yesterday Mr Fyodorov announced that he was sacking a number of corrupt officials and declared war on tax dodgers, singling out wealthy Russians

BUSINESS

BRIEFING

BTP goes on the acquisition trail

THE FINE chemicals group BTP, which helps manufacture the latest wonder drug Viagra, is on the acquisition trail again. Its chief executive, Steve Hannam, has just paid £54m for Hexachemie of France and has purchased a string of other small businesses but says there are opportunities for more.

The company yesterday reported pre-tax profits before exceptionals, up 10 per cent at £53.2m, while sales rose 8 per cent to £438.8m. They would have been better but for the high pound and South-east Asian economic woes.

Investment column, page 23



Markets buoyed by official figures

OFFICIAL FIGURES showing that British industry was technically not in recession last month was just one of the things keeping the financial markets treading water yesterday. The outcome of an informal G7 meeting and testimony from Fed

chairman, Alan Greenspan (above) are awaited today. while the Chancellor and Governor of the Bank of England will give their Mansion House speeches tomorrow, page 21

Fraud prevention firm executives quit

THE CHIEF executive and finance director of Card Clear, a fraud prevention company, have been forced to resign after the discovery late last week that they misrepresented to the board the nature of payment, page 21

STOCK MARKETS

FTSE 100	Dow Jones	Mikkej
P050	9150	15550
mi ————————————————————————————————————	7.50	569
.e	E240	540
4000	#x	1450
24	156	1527
# 1 8 B T	# 1 F W 1	# 1 F, N L

fotex	Close	Change	(mands(_p)	52 wk bigh	52 wt. 10w	Yield(%)
FTSE 100	6019.80	-18.00	-0.30	6150.50	4382.80	3.88
FTSE 250	5966.60	-6.30	011	5962.40	4384.20	3.03
FTSE 350	2929.30	-6.50	-0.22	2940.10	2141.80	3.72
FTSE All Share	2862.45	-5.65	-0.20	2872.04	2106.59	3.67
FTSE SmallCap	2787.10	4.40	0.16	2793.80	2182.10	2.94
FTSE Fledgling	1517 10	0.60	0.04	1516.50	1225.20	2.97
FTSE AIM	1142.70	-4.20	-0.37	1146,90	965.90	1.10
FTSE EBLOC 100	1055.09	-9.08	-0.85			

INTEREST RATES

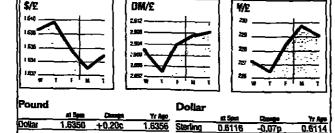
Short sterling	UK 18 year gilt	US long bond
775	\$79 \$77	5 PIS
750		185
755	157	178
7 E H 1) D	\$175 T

Money	Marke	t Rates		Bond Yields					
index		1 yr chg	î year	1 yr chg	10 year	1 yr chg	Long bend	1 yr ebg	
UK	7.69	1.00	7.69	0.63	5.78	-1,33	5.52	-1.63	
US	5.69	-0.12	5.88	-0.31	5.59	-0.95	5.80	-1.03	
Japan	0.54	-0.06	0.58	-0.35	1.49	-1.23	1.99	-1.24	
Germany	3.56	0.41	3.69	0.57	4.87	-0.92	5.43	-1.16	

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Rises	Price (p)	Dig (p)	%, Chigo	Falls	Price (p)	Chap (gr)	% Chys
Thistie Hotels	237.50	37.00	18.45	Telewest Comm	126	6	5
Business Post	855.00	47,50	5.88	Great Port	274.5	13	4.97
Thorn	219.50	12.00	5.78	Pizzaexpress	915	36	4.1
Ladbroke group	355.00	19.25	5.73	Stakis	138	<u></u> 5	3.76
Inspec Group	319.50	17.00	5.62	CGU	1168	41	3.64
1							

CURRENCIES



185.25 Yen

99.00 S Index

OTHER INDICATORS

2.9087 +0.26pt

229,33 _-+0.17

1	44 Martin 1944						********	THIE SEES	Tro Intrice I
<u>* at 5 per</u>	Clese		Yr Age	lindex	Clay	Yr ago	Heat Bod		
Brent Oil (S) 13.08	-0.24	17.08	GDP 114.70	2.90	111.47	Aun	LIFFE, London's futures and	executive of Liffe, described
Gold (8)	292.95	-3.80	344.05	RPI 162.60	4.00	156,35		options exchange, vesterday	the vote as "an outstanding
Silver (\$)	5.46	0.20	4.81	Base Rates	7.50	6.50		voted 97.5 per cent in favour of	
manus l			le			0.00		a new system of electronic	

2.7913 D-Mark 1.7804 +0.19pf

140.26 -¥-0.30

112.99

www.bloomberg.com/uk

source: Bloomberg

TOURIST RATES

Australia (\$)	2.6338	Japan (yen)	224,9
Austria (schillings)	19.76	Mataysia (ringgits)	6.206
Beigham (francs)	58.12	Mexican (nuevo peso)	12.92
Canada (\$)	2.3183	Netherlands (guilders)	3.1710
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8244	New Zealand (\$)	3.082
Denmark (krone)	10.79	Norway (krone)	11.8
Finland (markka)	8.6009	Portugal (escudos)	285.13
France (francs)	9.4435	Singapore (\$)	2.666
Germany (marks)	2.8242	Spain (pesetas)	238.5
Greece (drachma)	476.12	South Africa (rands)	8.094
Hong Kong (\$)	12.26	Sweden (krone)	12.4
ireland (punts)	1.1146	Switzerland (francs)	2.349
Indian (rupees)	63.22	Thailand (bahts)	63.3
Israel (shekels)	5.5004	Turkey (Brasi)	40620
Italy (fira)	2784	USA (S)	1.594

Express looks into milk-float home shopping

BY NIGEL COPE

EXPRESS DAIRIES is looking to use its fleet of 1600 milk-floats to move into the provision of services to households such as home shopping and the collection of recyclable paper. The company, which was

de-merged from Northern Foods in March, feels that home delivery will enable it to increase the use of its vans by offering additional services in

pletion of normal morning milk

Express Dairies has held talks with major supermarket groups, food manufacturers and waste companies about linking up to provide door-todoor services. "We think that in the longer term we may have a role to play in home shop-ping," said Neil Davidson, the

company's chief executive. It is preparing for the expansion by offering its army of milkmen hand-held computers

that will enable them to input the details of a household's requirements. Customers will then receive itemised bills for

the first time, while Express will

develop a consumer database. The company hopes to use the information to target pro-motional material and establish which households would be interested in additional services such as home delivery and

paper collection. Chris Haskins, the Express Dairies chairman, said: "I don't

think we are looking at something in the next six months, because we have to roll out the handsets first, but it is something that we are looking at. Milk-floats, with their electric

mentally friendly. block may be the size of the milk-floats, most of which are

operation, are very environ-The initiative could well prove attractive to supermarket operators, which are becoming increasingly involved in home delivery. The stumbling

too small to carry a full range of supermarket products to the

major supermarket group a couple of years ago about helping with home delivery but the talks foundered on lack of capacity. Tesco, Sainsbury and Iceland are all running homedelivery operations, but they are all using their own yans.

The comments came as Express Dairies reported a 40 per cent increase in operating

profits to £62.5m in the year to March. Mr Davidsonsaid the doorstep delivery maket was Unigate held talks with a still ripe for consolidation and that the company would play its. part. Express doorstep lelivery sales fell by 7 per cent lst year, a slower rate than preiously forecast. The company spects consolidation in the dorstep delivery market and analysts said Express was more liely to take the lead role in a shake-up than Unigate, its main real. Investment column, page 23

Thistle Hotels braced for £1.5bn takeover approach

BY NIGEL COPE Associate City Editor

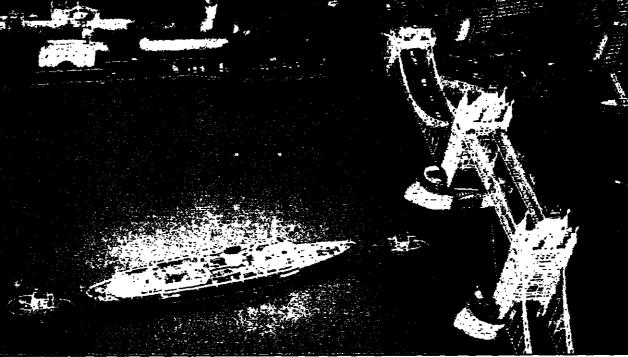
THISTLE HOTELS, Britain's second largest hotels group, increased the prospect of further consolidation in the UK market yesterday after revealing it had received several approaches.

Thistle, one of London's biggest hotel groups, is under-stood to have received at least three approaches from trade and financial buyers both from the UK and overseas. The board is now considering the approaches but may take two months to complete the

The group's London portfolio includes The Tower Thistle, by Tower Bridge, The Mount Royal at Marble Arch and the Royal Horseguards, off Whitehall. Most of its hotels are in the four star category.

The catalyst for the approaches is likely to have been the recent announcement by Brierely Investments, which holds a 46 per cent stake in Thistle, that it is reviewing its portfolio. Analysts had expect-ed that this might lead to the disposal of its holding.

Thistle shares soared more than 18 per cent to close 37p higher at 237.5p valuing the were priced at 170p when the Savoy Hotel group and Patriot for investment." company came to the stock American Hospitality. "There



One of the group's top London botels, the Thistle Tower (top right) could be heading into foreign hands

tential suitors could include a

Analysts said the list of po- in the industry whereby US in- curities which has conducted a vestors are interested in achost of American operators quiring European assets" one such as Starwood Hotels and analyst said. "So all hotel com-Resorts. The Blackstone Group panies that have European as-

Financial buyers could in- of organisations have been buyare structural changes going on clude banks like Nomura Se- ing into other earnings-based investment trusts (Reits) which

number of major pub acquisitions by using the target's cashflow to securitise the debt.

William Barney, head of tants KPMG said: "These kind

businesses such as motorway service areas, pubs and betting shops. Hotel businesses offer a similar earnings stream, particularly when they have a lot

Another possibility is inter-

values of British hotels groups. "The US Reits and institu-

tional buyers have lit the blue touch paper From there you get trade buyers from the UK com-ing in looking to protect positions as market leaders," said John Jarvis chief executive of Jarvis Hotels which reported a sharp rise in profits yesterday. Mr Jarvis predicted consolidation in the secor, though he said his company had received noapproaches.

Thistle's statement, which prompted rises in the share prices of other UK hotels groups, marks a further step in the shake-up of the UK hotels industry. It comes just a week after Vaux, the North-east brewing and hdels group, announced it had received a takeover approach, thought to have come fromStakis

It came as Jawis Hotels reported a 24 per cent rise in full year profits to 30m. Jarvis said it expected trbenefit from structural change under way in the UK industry.

It added that he changes would bring opportunities by making first class egional hotels available and by tempting investors.

"The prime buyes for any of these groups, prticularly who will be more inerested in est from American real estate London than in the rejons," Mr

Software company founder misses out

BY TERRY MACALISTER

DR ALAN Solomon, who founded a pioneering anti-virus software business of the same name, has largely missed out on a massive \$640million (£393m) sale of the company to the US.

But three executives, who bought out the husband and wife team in 1995 and have agreed to sell Dr Solomon's Group to Network Associates of California, each stand to take shares worth £13m after tax.

The three are chief executive Geoff Leary, financial director David Stephens and operations dividual staff members also will benefit from small holdings in the company.

Dr Solomon and his wife Susan who started the business from their front room made

trading in a bid to hit back at its

arch-rival in Germany, writes

their money in 1995 when they and EASDAQ stock markets. sold out for £30m. The sale of the company to Network Associates will still allow them to make a further 55m from the which is sold to corporate disposal of share options.

Dr Solomon himself has remained on the board of the company as a non-executive sultant. He is said to have supported its sale to Network to £41.5m. Associates which was established through the merger of McAfee and Network General

Dr Solomon, who has a PhD in Econometrics, saw the need structure". director Keith Perrett. Many in- for anti-virus software after getting involved with data re-COVERA MOLK

The company has watched its share price double to \$32 in the 18 months since it was first listed on both the NASDAO

The new trading system will run alongside the system of open-outery trading on the floor

of the exchange.

The success has been driven by the main product, Dr Solomon's Anti-Virus Toolkit.

clients in the UK and Europe. In the nine months to the end of February, it produced operating profits of £9.6million comdirector and is hired as a con-pared to £6.1m last time while sales have soared from £25.4m Mr Leary said putting Dr

Solomon together with Network Associates represented an "excellent fit in terms of products, markets and infra-Under the terms of the pro-

posed acquisition, holders of Dr Solomon's ordinary shares will receive 0,27625 shares of Network Associates common stock for each Dr Solomon's ordi- Dr Alan Solomon: missed

plans to allow outside investors

to buy shares in Liffe, which

until now has been wholly

owned by the members which

The market will also shift to

Executives at the exchange

operate in the market.

a profit-oriented strategy.



out on £360m fortune

last month after it became obvious that Liffe was losing a

large chunk of its market

share to Deutsche Termin-

horse, the Frankfurt-based ex-

change which already uses

electronic trading.

Severn Trent in Berlin bid

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

SEVERN TRENT the UK water company, is bidding to take over the water supply for the DM4bn (£1.4bn) privatisation of the business takes place later this year.

Vic Cocker, the chief executive of Severn Trent, confirmed yesterday that it was interested in making a bid, possibly in conjunction with a German partner, for the operating contract to supply Berlin. This would be the most significant overseas move by Severn since privatisation nine years ago and could pave the way for fur-

ther expansion into Europe. The Berlin Wasse Bertriebe serves a population of 3.5 million people, has 6,500 employees and a capital investment programme running at about 2500m a year. The Berlin city authority is looking to raise at least DM2bn by selling off 49 per cent of the business and is expected to proceed formally with the sale by this autumn

If Severn Trent's bid is successful, it would be projectfinanced to a large extent limiting the amount of direct equity that the company would have to inject.

The expansion intoBerlin would form part of Svern's strategy of increasing it nonregulated earnings by 0 per cent a year over the net five German city of Berlin when the to six years to offset togher regulatory curbs on it UK water and sewerage busiess

However, Mr Cocker uled out a renewed bid for anther UK water company and sai the company had no plans to oter either the liberalised electicity or gas markets.

He was speaking as he group announced a 4 per ent decline in profits last year ut a 10 per cent increase in the ividend. The reduction in prois from £391m to £374m was de to higher interest charges bcause of the windfall tax and te capital investment programme; customer rebates and a ecline in revenues due to lover water usage by business dstomers; and the increasing number of households swithing to meters.

This was offset by improved profits from the waste busins Biffa and other non-regulated divisions and further redctions in operating costs.

Severn said it was ahea of its leakage reduction targetset by the regulator and hadrut leaks by 40 per cent since 195.

NEW YORK

late morning trade, pressured v weaker bonds and profit-takings many sectors following recent advances, dealers said. By mid morning the 30-year benchmar bond was down 8/32 at 104-19/32 yielding 5.796 per cent, pressuri by concerns that Japan may son arrange intervention to suppor the yen. They added that bond trading today is likely to be restrained by nervousness ahe of Fed Chairman Alan Greenspa's remarks to Congress tomorrow.

LONDON

After two days of strong gains blue chip shares paused for breath with Footsie easing 18 points to 6,019.8. Ladbroke, the betting and hotel group, was the best performing Footsie constituent, spurred 19.25p higher to 355p by the approaches to Thistle Hotels. The financial sector continued to reflect takeover hopes with the recently created CGU insurance giant gaining 41p to 1,168p. Supporting shares were again in fine form with

the mid cap index at a new peak.

See Market Report, page 23.

TOKYO

Members also approved

The Tokyo stock market advanced strongly as the yen's fall against the dollar encouraged investors to buy into export-driven manufacturers. The 225-share Nikkei average soared 235.46 points, 1.54 per cent, to close at 15,530.17. It was led by companies like Sony, up 250 yen at £11,670, and TDK, up ¥240 at ¥10,790. The dollar rose towards ¥141

Liffe sees its future in electronic trading

reflecting short-term capital outflows from Japan where the economy is still sluggish.

FRANKFURT

Shares recovered slightly from earlier losses as investors selectively bought into stocks after the dollar firmed against the mark, traders said. The Xetra DAX closed at

5,773.77, up 13.74 from today's floor close but down from yesterday's Xetra close of 5,787.05. The DAX closed today's floor session down 19.06 at 5,760.03. Dealers noted that trading had been thin throughout the day, with a lack of corporate news causing it to be directionless

HONG KONG Hong Kong stocks closed

sharply lower yesterday as buyers reacted negatively to the weak Japanese yen and pessimism about China. The Hang Seng Index fell 2.27 per cent, with "China plays" suffering most. The red chip index slumped 8.52 per cent. Trading was briefly interrupted by warning of torrential rain. It summed up the black mood of investors who marked down stocks like Shanghai Industrial by HK\$1.35 to HK\$17.80.

Share prices were stable at low in

Building societies get cartel habit

ONCE UPON a time, there used to be something called the "building societies cartel". Every so often, the building society chiefs would sit down together and decide what their mortgage and savings rates were going to be. It was a simple and uncomplicated arrangement, everyone charged the same and everyone was happy. Then along came a new religion called competition which destroyed that cosy little world. No one would dare do that kind of thing these days, would they?

Old habits die hard, it would seem. Tomorrow, members of the Building Societies Association sit down to discuss proposals for a collective ban on mortgage redemption penalties. The effect of such a ban would be to end the sort of cashback, discounted mortgage offers that have littered the press in recent years, as well as some good value fixed rate deals

Why would building societies want to do this? Stealing borrowers from each other by offering deals of this sort to new barrowers or those willing to remortgage their homes has become a costly zero-sum game. It began five years ago when the housing market was still depressed and lenders were desper-



OUTLOOK

ate for business and has since mushroomed. Virtually all new mortgages now carry some kind of penalty for early redemption.

Plainly if there were no such penalty, it would not be possible to offer deals like these, since borrowers would take their cash and discounts and then move onto the next lender. Alternatively, they would move to a more advantageous fixed rate the moment rates moved against them .inc idea of these of an insult, isn't it? initiatives is to lock the borrower in. indeed the argument is not all black and white. It could be argued that lock-in mortgages are them-

selves a restrictive practice that dis-

than the lender. Certainly, many borrowers don't fully understand the back-end obligations they are entering into. But don't believe that building societies are proposing this solely for the benefit of their customers. Cartels never truly die; they just hibernate.

Gotcha! Rupert bags Kelvin

KELVIN & ACKENZIE must have been dissappointed with stock market reaction to his abrupt departure from Mirror G. oup as deputy chief executive. The share price barely moved in response to this tragic loss. What? The newspaper industry's greatest living talent signs off and the City doesn't bat an eyelid? The Mirror share price may be more buoyed by bid hopes right now than any fundamental appraisal of the company's prospects going forward, but even so this really is a bit

Axel Springer, the German newspaper group which has been contemplating an offer for Mirror, is desperately trying to make as much out of Kelvin's resignation as it can. advantages the borrower more Plainly this affects any valuation put

quoted as saying. Talents like this are in short supply and Mirror Group is unlikely to get another. All to no avail. The share price sticks stoically in the mid-230s. Axel none the less raises an in-

teresting question - the extent to which valuations depend on the talents of one individual. Rupert Murdoch has been so rattled by recent improvements in the Mirror Group titles that, according to some accounts, he would have done almost anything to prise Mr Mac-Kenzie away. The title of editor in chief of News International's Sun and News of the World were his for the taking. Mr Murdoch would have backed Kelvin in a flight to the moon if that had been his price for leaving. As it is, News has only had to help finance his bid for Talk Radio. Cheap at the price, it might be said.

So does his departure matter? It is the mark of a stable and professionally run company that it should be able to cope with the loss of senior executives without strain or disruption. In the creative industries it might be a bit different. Good editors can plainly make a real difference to circulation and hence the commercial prospects of their

on the group, its emissaries are organisations, and although Mr spokesman, Manfred Körber, famed MacKenzie was not technically an editor at Mirror Group, he has certainly been behaving like one. Even so, if Mirror Group is as good a company as its chief executive, David Montgomery, insists, it shouldn't be unduly affected by Mr MacKen-

zie's decision to abandon ship. But the proof of this will be in the pudding. Axel Springer is not minded to bid any more than the present market price. That's why every time from Mr Duisenberg make you a cloud passes over Canary Wharf, the Germans claim another 10p has been knocked off Mirror's value. The onus is now firmly on Mr Montgomery to demonstrate his company is worth more. The cleanest way to do this would be through a leveraged buyout bid. But don't hold your breath. He's unlikely seriously to test the market's appetite for this until he sees the colour of Axel's money.

Silence in Euroland

IT INSISTS it is going to be accountable, but not will not publish minutes of its meetings. It will explain itself to the public at large, but has just appointed a chief

for his ability to keep a firm veil over the activities of Germany's Bundesbank. This Alice in Wonderland organisation is, of course, the new European Central Bank. After the fuss about that shabby deal under which Wim Duisenberg is replaced in time with a Frenchman, Jean-Claude Trichet, and whether the ECB's credibility would suffer as a result, the latest pronouncements wonder whether Mr Duisenberg

himself is not the biggest threat to the ECB's standing. After the first council meeting yesterday the golf-playing, country and western-loving Mr Duisenberg said the question of publishing minutes had not been discussed, but the council had nevertheless decided not to do so. He added immediately: "We are accountable to the public at large and to the European Parliament. They will be on our heels to judge

what we are doing." Too right, Wim. If ECB interest rate decisions leave some countries languishing with high unemployment and slow growth, the public will know very well where to place the blame. A shell of secrecy will be no protection against popular discontent. Quite the reverse: openness is essential for any organisation that has to take unpopular decisions. As the Bank of England is learning, it does not make you more popular, but it does give your decisions a crucial authority they would otherwise lack

The rationale, such as it is, for the reluctance to reveal the ECB's inner workings is the fear that council members would feel compelled to vote the national line. But the solution is simply not to name names in the minutes, rather than to not publish minutes at all. The ECB will find that the kind of secrecy the German public will accept from the Bundesbank will not wash across the rest of Europe. It will not even impress the financial markets, as the ECB inspires nothing near Bundesbank-like confidence.

In trying to buck the world-wide trend towards greater transparency in policy-making, the ECB is making a big mistake. It scarcely bolstered confidence when it also announced yesterday that from July it will meet on the first Tuesday of every month to discuss interest rates; but August will be a month of rest. This is presumably to create

earlie.



15 - 12 2 15 - 15 1





The key players. From left: Rupert Murdoch, Kelvin Mackenzie and Mirror Group's chief, David Montgomery

NI backs MacKenzie bid for Talk Radio

RUPERT MURDOCH'S role in the departure of Kelvin MacKenzie from Mirror Group was revealed yesterday when News International, the media Znogul's UK holding company, confirmed that it would be supporting the former Sun editor's bid for Talk Radio.

Leslie Hinton, executive chairman, yesterday said that NI would be a 20 per cent shareholder in the consortium which Mr MacKenzie is putting together to make an offer for the troubled national radio station. Mr MacKenzie's move is the

culmination of a campaign by NI to lure him away from the Mirror titles, where he had recently been stemming the decline in circulation since moving over from running cable channel LIVE TV five months

This was in stark comparison to the Sun, where sales had been falling sharply. Last week its editor, Stuart Higgins, was Dusted and replaced by David Yelland. Meanwhile, however, rattled NI executives were also devising a plan to lure Mr MacKenzie away from Mirror

Mr MacKenzie is understood to have been offered a role as editor-in-chief of the Sun and the News of The World, but this was swiftly rejected.

Mr MacKenzie is believed to have been tired of working for other people, and was keen to take on a role where he could be in charge.

As a result, NI offered to back bid for Talk But observers say the company would have supported almost any venture that Mr MacKenzie suggested as long as it took him away from

"Murdoch just wanted him

News analysis: Rupert Murdoch still has a hold on key employees, even when they no longer work for him

eagerly anticipating a fall in Mir-

ror's share price when the mar-

kets reopened. In the event,

however, the shares slipped

cannot stand in his way."

question the ethics of a com-

pany director pursuing private projects with support from the

group's main competitor. They

also wonder why Mr MacKen-

zie broke cover when it is far

from certain that his bid for Talk

keen to take control of the sta-

tion. The American group Jacor

Communications and London

News Radio, whose sharehold-

ers include the Daily Mail,

And yesterday Talk's man-

agement team threw its hat into

the ring. Paul Robinson, the sta-

tion's managing director, said he

and four other senior executives

were assembling a consortium

have both submitted bids.

Other competitors are still

will succeed. .

just 0.5p to 232.5p.

to exploit any weakness. On out of Mirror Group," one insider said yesterday. Monday evening, advisers were

The move illustrates the hold that Mr Murdoch often continues to have on key employees, even when they no longer work for him. It also demonstrates the lengths to which he will go to stem any competitive threat to the Sun's position as the best-selling daily newspaper.

Mr MacKenzie had long been interested in the station, apparently boasting that he could do a much better job than the incumbent management. When Luxembourg Group CLT-Ufa put its 64 per cent stake in Talk Radio up for sale two months ago Mr MacKenzie was one of the many interested parties who received details of the station's financial performance from Lehman Brothers, the US bank

which is handling the sale. Media cross-ownership rules prevent NI from owning more than 20 per cent of a national radio station. However, the company's backing gave Mr MacKenzie the credibility to

attract other backers. He is being advised by Apax Partners, the group which financed Chris Evans' £85m buy-out of Virgin Radio. He also convinced Media Ventures International, a fund which holds 24 per cent of Talk, to hang

on to its investment. Whatever his reasons for leaving Mirror Group, however, the timing of Mr MacKenzie's departure raised eyebrows in the City. The German newspaper publisher Axel Springer is currently preparing a bid for Mirror Group and will be keen CLT is interested in maximising," he said, adding that the group was likely to submit an offer in the next few days. However, he refused to name any of the group's backers. Mr Robinson criticised Mr

MacKenzie's track record. "He has no experience of radio broadcasting. And it has to be said that LIVE TV has not been a great success," he said.

Mr Robinson denied that he Accounts of Mr MacKenzie's or the other executives would departure differ. Some suggest leave Talk if Mr MacKenzie's bid was successful, "I would certhat David Montgomery, Mirror Group's chief executive, found tainly talk to him if he approached me," he added. out about his plans and forced Even if Mr MacKenzie suc-

him to make a choice between the two projects. Others say the ceeds in his bid, however, analysts question whether the departure was more amicable, station will ever be a success. with Mr Montgomery accepting It has struggled since its launch that Mr MacKenzie wanted to when it opted for a downmarket Mr Montgomery said yes-"shock jock" approach which did little to attract an audience. terday: "I am really sorry to see A subsequent relaunch has lifthim go, but he has a burning ed listening figures and imambition for this project and we proved finances to the point where the station is set to make Nevertheless, City observers

a small operating profit in June. Nevertheless, Talk remains hamstrung by its £3.5m annual licence fee which keeps it permanently in the red. Although this will probably be reduced when the station renews its licence in two years' time a successful bidder would still have to support two years of heavy

Most of all, observers wonder why the limelight-loving Mr MacKenzie, who was being seriously spoken of as Mirror Group's next chief executive and was being lined up for a similar role in the case of a successful Axel Springer bid, should choose a marginal radio station as his next career move.

Still, if radio does not work to make a management buy-out out he can probably ask Mr Murdoch to find him something "We have the inside track, we have the value and that is what

Building societies' move may end 'cashback' mortgages

BY ANDREW VERITY

BUILDING SOCIETIES are likely to call for the abolition of redemption penalties on all variable rate mortgages at a meeting tomorrow of the Building Societies' Association.

The council of the BSA will decide whether to press for the penalties - which penalise borrowers for redeeming mortgages before a set period - to be outlawed under the new mortgage code.

If the proposal were accepted, "cashback" mortgages, which offer lump sums up front in exchange for a lock-in, would no longer be sold to new customers. Those fixed-rate mortgages which lock customers in after rates have ceased to be fixed would also be affected. Discounted mortgages, which

offer rates up to 1.5 per cent lower than normal for the first one or two years, would also be

ties, which typically amount to 5 per cent of the remainder of the loan, confuse customers and distort competition by locking them into a particular lender - no matter what rate is offered.

A spokeswoman for the BSA said there was a question over whether it was fundamentally unfair to lock customers into a lender which was free to change its rates at any time.

"We are considering calling for a ban on all redemption fees on variable rate loans," said the spokeswoman. She added: "Is it fair that the lender can vary interest rates when the customer is locked in?"

lenders are taking an up-front loss on the new mortgages, while existing savers and bor-The BSA claims the penalrowers suffer poorer rates. They also say borrowers can suffer "payment shock" when a fixed-rate period ends and they

> The BSA acknowledges that t will need the support of banks if the proposal is to become part of the mortgage code, which came into force on 1 May Banks will debate the issue at a meeting of the Council of Mortgage Lenders next month.

which could cost twice as much.

The debate over redemption penalties comes amid an intense mortgage price war in which customers are being hired away from their lenders with the offer of discounts, cashbacks and fixed rates.

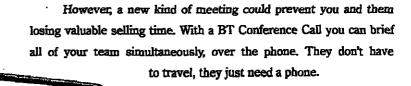
Of the £77bn lent out last year. 41 per cent was in fixed rate mortgages. Of the remaining 59 per cent in variable rates, the overwhelming majority include some form of discount or cashback

Mortgage brokers, however, are locked into an interest rate are suspicious of the BSA's moves - with one referring to it as "the thin end of the wedge of price-fixing". They fear lenders are backing away from stiff competition on the high street which has brought unprecedented benefits for the

Chris Scales, director of the Mortgage Guild, a 200-strong association of mortgage advisers, said: "We are against any form of cartel, either in price or product fixing, which could be used to the detriment of the

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Savings 'need risk warnings'

THE FINANCIAL Services

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£97m airline

regional airlines in

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BRITISH REGIONAL Air

Lines, one of the largest

Europe, yesterday said it

expected to have a market

London Stock Exchange in June. The flotation will be

40,673,534 new and existing

Dealings in the new shares

ordinary shares at 150p.

endorsement.

warning that they may not

Markets hold breath as G7 meet

BY DIANE COYLE Economics Editor

LIKE RABBITS frozen in a car's headlights, the financial markets stood still yesterday as they waited for the outcome of key speeches and meetings later this week

Deputy finance ministers from the Group of Seven counhave already increased bortries are due to finish meeting in Paris today, while Alan Greenspan, the Federal Reserve chairman, will give testimony to a Congressional committee this afternoon.

In London tomorrow the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Governor of the Bank ister, said: "We have strong of England will give their an-



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Larry Summers: silent on US interest rate rise

nual Mansion House speeches, expected to set a tough tone on both the fight against inflation and government spending poiicy in the year ahead.

The yen remained weak against the dollar, briefly passing the ¥141 level before recovering in later trading. It they did take analysts by surremained below the ¥140 level, prise. While most were confibut deep pessimism about dent until last week's shock prospects for the Japanese interest rate rise that the cost weaken again."

economy was tempered by fear that the G7 would decide to intervene to prop up the flagging currency.

The markets will also be on the alert for any signal from Mr Greenspan about the need for a US interest rate rise. But for the economic crisis in Asia the Fed would almost certainly rowing costs.

Larry Summers, the deputy US Treasury Secretary, had no comment yesterday and insisted there would be no statement after the informal G7 meeting. But Hikaru Matsunaga. Japan's finance minworries over excessive yen weakness. We will take decisive measures as needed in co-operation with the G7 nations."

Shares in Tokyo staged a recovery yesterday, with the Nikkei index climbing 235 points to 15,530.17. Big exporters led the rise, with the weak yen expected to boost their performance. While a US rate rise is wide-

ly expected, the uncertainty over the interest rate outlook in the UK increased yesterday with official figures showing that manufacturing had crept out of recession in the three months to April. A surge in energy output, to a record level, took growth in total industrial production even higher

Although the unexpected rise in April, and upward revisions to earlier figures, did nothing to alter the fact that manufacturing is stagnating,



Tokyo money dealers take advantage of the quiet trading in the lead-up to key financial announcements

of borrowing had reached its peak, few are so sure now. However, business surveys

suggest that the outlook for industry remains bleak. Michael Saunders, UK economist at Salomon Smith Barney, said: "Manufacturing is going to

Manufacturing output edged up by 0.1 per cent in April, and its level in March and April was also revised up. Although it remains a fraction lower than a year ago, it has climbed by 0.9 al production rose by 1 per per cent in the latest three months - and therefore tech- level 1 per cent higher than a for retail sales and average

A 7.1 per cent leap in electic is expected to prove erratic. The Office for National Statisduring April, along with a 3.4 tics said the trend in manufacper cent rise in oil and gas ex- turing was flat while trend traction, meant total industricent during the month to a

growth in total industrial production was 0.5 per cent. Official figures next week

rection of the next interest rate

are expected to start on 18 important signal about the di-Ashley changes

move. The policy debate both inside and outside the Bank of England hinges on whether the non-manufacturing parts of the economy are slowing down fast enough to keep inflation on

Reuters/Eriko Sugita

yesterday appointed

LAURA ASHLEY Holdings Nicholas Ashley and Motoya Okada to the board as non-executive directors with effect from 9 June. They are replacing Sir Bernard Ashley and Takuya Okada who are retiring. The company also said Dino Adriano, the chief executive of J Sainsbury, will resign from the board when his twoyear term of appointment expires in September.

Motor offer

REG VARDY, the UK motor retailer, is making a recommended cash offer for Trust Motor Group, on the basis of 235p in cash for each Trust share. Taken together with the special interim dividend declared by Trust on 8 May, the bid values each Trust share at 240p and values the entire issued share capital of Trust at

Oil round open

THE GOVERNMENT has opened the 18th Seaward Petroleum Licensing Round. In a written parliamentary answer, Trade and Industry Minister John Battle said applications are now open for unlicensed acreage in the northern, central, and southern North Sea, and in the northern half of the Irish Sea, Liverpool bay and Morecambe Bay. The offer also includes exploration blocks under the 'fallow blocks initiative" which has encouraged companies to hand back acreage for which they have no current plans. Closing dates for receipt of applications is 10-11

Waddington

September, he said.

IN YESTERDAY'S item about Waddington, chief executive Martin Buckley was wrongly quoted as saying he hoped for £70m proceeds from the sale of the group's cartons division. Mr Buckley did not give any indications about the likely price of the business. The group overall posted a 14 per cent increase in profit before tax and an 18 per cent increase in earnings per share, beating analysts' expectations by about £1m.

Fall in unemployment raises hopes in Germany

By IMRE KARACS in Bonn

FOR THE first time in three years, Germany's seasonally adjusted jobless rate fell back last month, raising hopes in government circles that the economic recovery is beginning to have an effect on the country's appalling level of unemployment.

According to figures re-

leased by the Federal Labour Office yesterday, adjusted unemployment fell to 4.324 million in May, the first time a decrease had been recorded since 1995.

The unemployment rate. which is based on unadjusted data, fell to 10.9 per cent, compared with 11.4 per cent in April. The number of people out of work fell by 58,300 in seasonally adjusted terms from

The signs of improvement in the jobless figures were particularly welcome as the council of the new European Central Bank held its first meeting in Frankfurt yesterday.

Wim Duisenberg, its president, said no policy decisions were taken; but the ECB will have to co-ordinate members' interest rate decisions in the run-up to 1 January when the said Bernhard Jagoda, the single currency starts. The labour office president. "It's

level of rates in Germany will have to rise, although no move is expected at the Bundesbank's council meeting today.

Though Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government saw in the figures a vindication of its policies, the labour office sounded a note of caution. "The positive jobless development in May doesn't allow us to sit back,"

only a nice intermediate goal which we achieved."

the fall in the number of jobless - the biggest in unadjusted terms for May since 1990 was partly due to make-work schemes that have received extra funding in the run-up to September's elections.

"The economic upturn is now will mean the average unem-

feeding through as an increasing improvement in the labour Economists also noted that market situation," said Gunter Rexrodt, the Economics Minister. "No serious observer will now deny that we have moved through rock bottom in the labour market as well."

"I think that by the end of 1998 we will have around The government would not 300,000 fewer unemployed than hear of such caveats, however, a year earlier," he added, "This

ployment rate will be lower than in 1997." The government's optimism

stems from the gathering pace of economic recovery. Figures released last week showed that GDP in the first quarter of this year was 3.8 per cent more than in the corresponding period in 1997. Such growth rates have not been seen since German re-

Card Clear sacks two top directors

By John Willcock

TWO TOP directors of Card Clear, a fraud prevention company have been forced to resign after the discovery late last week that they "misrepresented to the board the nature of a payment". The news wiped nearly 20 per cent off Card Clear's share price, which fell from 77.5p to 62.5p.

The company, which provides credit card fraud preention systems to large stitutions such as Amex, Nat-West and Barclays, said the board is satisfied that the amount of the payment involving Brian Raven, the chief executive, and Oliver Cooke, the finance director, was "not material". The payment was "nei-ther intended to confer, nor conferred, any personal gain on either Raven or Cooke", the company said. However, the resulting loss of confidence in the two directors made their positions untenable, it stated.

"Neither Raven nor Cooke is seeking or will receive any compensation in connection with their resignations other than the retention by them of certain share options," Card Clear added.

The company has not in-

the affair because of the small size of the payment concerned.

It is also highly unlikely that the company will take any legal action against the departing

The company, based in Woking, Surrey, said that Nigel Whittaker, the non-executive chairman, will take over as caretaker executive chairman while it seeks replacements.

From 1983 to 1995 Mr Whittaker was director of corporate affairs at Kingfisher, the retail group. He will be supported on the Card Clear board by Barrie Brinkman, the managing director of the recently acquired information technology company HTEC, and Steve Callaghan, the managing director of Card Clear UK.

The company also said its auditors, Coopers & Lybrand, will help in finding suitable fi-

Under the departure terms agreed with the board over the weekend, Mr Cooke will retain one million of the 2.6 million share options granted to him under the company's executive share option scheme. Mr Raven has 958,000 founders' options over shares in the company, exercisable at 12.5 pence



Disgruntled protesters unfurl a banner outside the Lloyd's annual general meeting in 1992 Tom Pilston

Lloyd's 'refuseniks' take case to appeal

BY TERRY MACALISTER

THE LLOYD'S insurance market looks poised to win a fight to secure £130m it is owed by refusenik" investors at a Court of Appeal hearing on Monday. Leading Names - the individual investors who have traditionally supported the market admit they are pessimistic about the chances of success. They have refused to pay money owed since October 1996 to help fund the establishment

of Equitas on the grounds they did not agree with it. Lloyd's has been forced to take out a £300m syndicated loan to finance Equitas, the reinsurance vehicle into which its liabilities prior to 1992 have

been placed. Lloyd's has already won a judgment on a "pay now, sue later," basis against the Names, and in March Lord Justice Tuckey refused them leave to

But next week the Names will urge the Court of Appeal to let them be heard. If they win, the case will proceed immediately, but if they lose, Lloyd's will start seizing assets both here and abroad.

A Lloyd's spokesman was confident its arguments were strong, saying: "All the documentation is in place so that we can proceed with debt collection as soon as the court allows."

When the Lloyd's market was restructured two years ago there was £600m outstanding from Names who refused to pay up. So far it has collected £75m but says it never expected to bring in more than £300m of the £600m.

Mobile phone group may start service withVirgin

growing mobile phone distributor has held talks with Richard Branson's Virgin group about launching a mobile phone service based on the Virgin brand,

writes Peter Thal Larsen. "We've had two discussions with Virgin with regard to mobile telephony," Warren Hardy, European Telecom's chairman and chief executive, said yesterday, adding that talks were still at an early stage.

Mr Hardy said the company was looking at providing a service to Virgin in which European Telecom would purchase mobile phones from manufacturers. distribute them, and handle after-sales and repair. The company has just won a similar

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similar service to Connect Austria, a newly licensed network operator in Austria.

Virgin has recently made it known that it is considering a move into mobile phones, and may be part of a consortium which bids for the next generation of mobile phone licences. The licences, known as Universal Mobile Telephony Services, will support high-speed data transmission, enabling users to surf the Internet and watch video on their phones. They are set to be auctioned off by the

Government next summer. Virgin is unlikely to build a new network. However, it may link up with an existing operators such as Cellnet or Vodafone

EUROPEAN TELECOM, the fast-three-year contract to provide a and rebrand phones which use their network with the Virgin

> A part in this set-up would be a boost for European Telecom. since it would receive a regular service charge for each phone it managed. The group currently earns most of its revenues by distributing phones, although it recently linked up with NatWest to offer phones which allow users to check their bank accounts.

The group, which topped The Independent 100 list of fastest growing companies in 1997, yesterday reported a 33 per cent jump in operating profits to £6.4m for the year to last March. Revenues were up 30 per cent to £187m.

60	MPANY RES	ште			
	WIFANT RE	OLIS			l
Turnover (£)	Pre-tax (£)	EPS	Dividend	Pay day	
238.35m (226.36m)	24 01m (20.18m)	18.60 (15.50)	10.0p (9.0p)	07.09.98	
329.58m (333.22m)	13.32m (12.53m)	31.9p (30.2p)	22 0a (20.5p)	31.07.98	
28.96m (17.35m)	4.28m (2.08m)	29.54p (13.64p)	5.0p (4.0p)	10.07.98	
54.68m (59.27m)	2.406m (5.003m)	18.Tp (36.2p)	5.0p (4.7p)	14.08.98	
23.49m (21,30m)	-3.021m (-0.453m)	-9.0p (-1.4p)	1.50p (1.25p)	13.07.98	
470.39m (390.05m)	10.232m (8.759m)	13.2p (17.2p)	6.1p (\$.6p)	01.10.98	
187.41m (143.90m)	5.32m (4 6m)	11,56p (10,58p)	2.1p (1.75p)	21.08,98	
752.8m (-)	54.8m (-)	12.9¢ (-)	4.9p (-)	0 1.10.98	
245.03m (217.90m)	24,062m (21.409m)	30.5p (27.4p)	70.4p (9.4p)	24.09.98	
89.36m (74.92m)	11,92m (6.49m)	5.9p (3.4p)	1.0p (Q.8p)	89.60 80	
14.64m (8.99m)	0.540m (0.476m)	4.24p (4.04p)	0.95p (D.92p)	20.07.98	
- (-)	56,28m (46.03m)	9.4p (10.4p)	9.0p (9.0p)	17.07.98	
40.38m (40 30m)	1.7 89 m (1.786m)	3.40p (3.22p)	2.1p (2.1p)	25.09.98	
136,56m (118,16m)	30.0m (24 1m)	16.7p(12.8p)	4.5p (4.0p)	15.08.98	
1.83bn (1.88bn)	130.0m (128.3m)	14.26p (18.13p)	10.40(9.40)	01.10.98	
258.34m (285.83m)	-28.37m (10.01m)	-14 45p (3.28p)	2.58p (2.58p)	10.08.98	
1.25bn (1.21bn)	374.Dm (386.5m)	4.3p (87.2p)	39.78p(32.85p)	06.04.99	
894 Am (677 Dm)	19.4m (16.8m)	24 On 521 7m	R 25n (7 50n)	N1 10 QR	

*1=HLFcods-Figure: 06.04.99,*3=Wesse

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Biotech falls further as fears grow

BRITISH BIOTECH slumped 8.5p to 39.5p, lowest for nearly three years as fears multiplied that more miserable tidings were due to be annormced by the controversial drugs

Trading was often heavy. Seaq put turnover at approaching 25 million shares with a steady stream of small deals recorded.

. It was, however, what appeared to be an old fashioned overnight bed and breakfast trade and downbeat comments from Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, BriBio's house stockbroker, which caused the damage.

B&B deals lost their tax advantages in the March Budget. Nevertheless one institution thought it worth while to sell 1246 million shares at 42p and then buy them back at 42.021p.

DKB added to the despair It said its 43p share valuation could be too high. BriBio's shares touched 326.5p in 1996 as the stock market indulged in enthusiastic calculations over prospects for the company's Marimastat cancer drug. But DKB struggled to get a rights issue away and then doubts about BriBio's





Disclosures by its sacked head of research, Dr Andrew Millar, created further uneas

Last month the company said chief executive Dr Keith McCullagh intended to stand down at the yearly shareholders' meeting later this year.

The rest of the drug sector was mesmerised by takeover talk. SmithKline Beecham, up 8p to 700p, has been the subject of heavy trading recently, rekindling talk of the elusive deal with Glaxo Wellcome being revived or even mergdrug portfolio started to materialise. ing with another group. One name

in the frame is Zeneca, off 26p to 2,634p. Glaxo rose 49p to 1,763p.

After their heady progress in the past two days, blue chips took a breather as profit-takers snatched their gains. Even so Footsie lost only 18 points to 6,019.8. The mid and small cap indices, helped by takeover action among hotels, made headway.

Financials continued to respond to the \$34hn Wells Fargo/Norwest Corporation deal. CGU, the result of the Commercial Union and General Accident merger, gained 41p to 1,168p and Norwich Union added 6.25p to 475p. Barclays rose 20p to 1,767p and National Westminster 14p to 1.142p.

Diageo, on its US Burger King presentation, put on another 8p to

Railtrack's headlong progress ground to a halt, off 53p to 1,357p. Billiton, the mining group, fretted about the share overhang, falling 5.75p to 139.5p. BTR was hit by worries over the Australian currency; the shares fell 8.25p to 187p.

Hotels were in demand following the approaches to Thistle Hotels, where 46 per cent shareholder **SHARE SPOTLIGHT** share price, pence IJB Sports

J J A SOND J FMAM J

Brierley Investments, following its own boardroom shake-up, is regarded as a willing seller.

Thistle rose 37p to 237.5p, dragging Ladbroke up 19.5p to 355p. Rumours have swirled lately that Ladbroke, running the Hilton Hotels outside the US, plans to snuggle closer to Hilton Hotel Corporation, which operates the US franchise.

Vaux, the Sunderland brewer, on it card operation, tumbled 15p to Safestore, running self storage bid alert because of interest in its Swallow Rotels chain, hardened 1.5p to 356p and Greenalls, the De Vere Hotel group, rose 8p to 538p. Cliveden, already in bid talks, hardened 3p to 94.5p and Queens

Moat Houses 2.75p to 37.5p. Jarvis Rotels, helped along by figures, put on 13.5p to 191.5p and Stakis, rumoured to be after the Swallow chain, 5p to 138p. The excitement even touched brewer Bass, which embraces the Holiday Inn hotel chain. It rose 15p to 1,120p.

Corporate Services, the employment group, hardened 22.5p to 260.5p following the \$250m takeover of Corestaff, one of the largest US employment groups. To fund the deal a £130.1m placing and open offer at 227p is being made. The deal should

lift CS into the mid cap index. Capital Radio also sounded a share sale, falling 10p to 665p. Cazenove is handling a placing of 7.6 million shares, representing 10.24 per cent of the capital. The shares mostly come from Radio Investments with some from Cale-

donia Investments. Card Clear, the anti-fraud cred62.5p following the sudden departure of Brian Raven, chief executive. and Oliver Cooke, finance director. Trust Motor accelerated 26p to

233p as Reg Vardy duly appeared with an agreed £36m offer (235p a share). Servomex, an electronic equipment group, slumped 65p to 247.5p after a profit warning. The shares were 388.5p last year.

Memory Corporation, the com- year. puter group, fell 4p to 30p following cautious comments. Last month it made a rights issue at 20p.

Stockbroker Charles Stanley. taking over the broking business of Waters Lunniss in Milton Keynes and Nottingham, gained 35p to 0.75p early this year. 343.5p. It also disclosed doubled profits to £4.26m.

JJB Sports, ahead of the World Cup kick-off, scored an 18p gain to 625.50 The shares were 822.50 earlier this year but then doubts appeared about the growth of sports

Energy Techniques, the old Benson Group, climbed 5p to 50p after stockbroker Albert E Sharp predicted profits of £2.8m for the

units returned to market after the £7m take over of a similar business, Metrostore. The

shares rose 4p to 86p. The Metrostore deal was completed at 65p. Stockbroker Rahael Zorn Hemsley is keen on the shares. It sees profits of £683,000 in the year to October, 1999, and £1.5m in the following

Omnimedia was suspended at 2.25p after adding 0.5p. It is involved in a reverse take over deal. The share of the loss making group were down to

Chieftain, an insulation and fireproofing group, slipped 2.5p to 112.5p. In February it said it felt the best way to realise its potential was to merge with a

bigger group.

The shares have been as high as 130p as talks have proceeded but a deal is clearly proving difficult to accomplish.

Northern better by half

SHARES IN Northern Foods, the Fox's biscuits and Ski yoghurt group, have been performing strongly since it announced plans to demerge its Express Dairies business in January. The market has warmed to the simplification of the businesses, which gives investors a choice between a stable but lower-growth foods business in Northern or a more risky, but potentially higher growth stock in Express Dairies.

Given that both these companies published detailed figures in the demerger process, Northern came in slightly ahead of expectations with combined profits, including Express Dairies, of £151.6m before exceptional items. Sales to its top five customers rose by five per cent, reflecting management's strategy of concentrating on the largest supermarkets.

While Unigate is now under pressure to do a deal Northern is confident it can grow earnings with its existing businesses. It has added two acquisitions including Cavaghan & Gray Northern may also express an interest in parts of the Hillsdown empire.

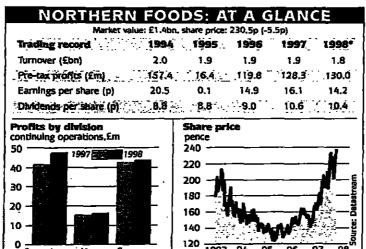
Getting price increases through is a problem and Northern has resorted to various stunts such as decreasing the carton size of Ski a forward rating of 13. yoghurts by more than the price cut to disguise the fact that the unit cost is higher. But Northern can still im-prove profits by growing volumes and keeping the lid on raw materials

On full-year forecasts of £102.5m Northern shares – down 5.5p to 230.5p yesterday - look a solid hold on a forward p/e ratio of 17.

Express Dairies is more of a bet on chief executive Neil Davidson pulling off a deal in the consolidating milk sector. Growth prospects look sluggish but the right acquisi-

INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY PETER THAL LARSEN



tion or merger could transform earnings. The shares closed down 1.5p at 181.5p yesterday. On ABN Amro's forecast of £60m for this year the stock does not look expensive on

Potency drug perks up BTP

VIAGARA, THE potency drug that is sweeping the US, may work wooders for the libidos of middle-aged men. But it's also had a remarkable effect on the shares of BTP, the fine chemicals group. They've risen by over a third since the beginning of April, and hardened another 6.5p to 535.5p

So what happens when the hype dies down? The answer should be very little. Viagara might fill newspaper columns but you won't find it in many BTP company documents, because it's actually a small part of the business. BTP is involved in part of the bio-science manufacturing process but is also a supplier to seven other drugs. It also produces everything from chemicals for preserving leather to safety equipment

for building sites. Yesterday BTP produced profits, before tax and exceptionals, of £53.2m, up 10 per cent. The headline figure was held back as the company took a charge on the cost of business disposals. Big increases on biocides and fine chemicals boosted the figures, although the strong pound and

South-east Asian woes constrained

Chief executive Steve Hannam makes clear that further acquisitions are in the pipeline. Or else BTP may go the way of Courtaulds and Allied Colloids and fall to a foreign bidder. Analysts reckon the company will make profits of around £62.5m this year, putting the shares on a forward multiple of 20 times. That's high, but there is plenty of life left in this inflated stock. Buy.

Yates needs wine weather

YATES BROTHERS, the fast-expanding chain of wine bars, is hoping for a fine summer and not too much distraction from the World Cup to help maintain its impressive progress. In the year to March, pretax profits rose by 30 per cent to £13.6m, though this includes exceptional profits on disposals. Likefor-like sales actually rose 2 per cent in spite of price cuts aimed at attracting business. However, most of the growth comes from new outlets, up from 61 to 87 in the period.

Retail space grew by 40 per cent and the first of a new food and drink chain, dubbed the Ha Ha Bar & Canteen, opened in Bristol in February. A further 25 outlets are planned in the current year and the group remains on course to reach its ambitious target of 200 in four years' time.

Analysts expect profits of around £15.5m for the current year, rising to £19.5m by March 2000. That puts the shares, which slipped 16p to 542.5p yesterday, on a forward earnings multiple of 27, falling to 22. Demanding, but Yates deserves the rating.

£35 billion team turns its attention to football

GOLDMAN SACHS has put to one side for the moment the question of whether to go ahead with a £35bn float, and turned to more important matters: the World Cup, (If you think footie is a game played by morons and watched by cretins, skip this bit.)

The investment bank's London economic team has undertaken to predict the result of one big game each week throughout the tournament. The team have also published a highly entertaining 40-page circular "The World Cup and Economics", which links sporting success to national economic performance.

Diplomatically or cravenly, depending on your point of view, Jim O'Neill and his colleagues at Goldmans have avoided the Scots game today and instead gone for this Saturday's match, predicting: Spain 4, Nigeria 2. So why did the economist's crys-

tal ball fog over for the Scotland/Brazil result? A guilt-ridden Mr O'Neill confesses: "It's because I have such a soft spot for Dennis Law. I hope Scotland win. and bred."

However, when pushed Mr O'Neill blurts out: "It could be fivenil to Brazil, two-all, or one-nil to Scotland.

"It's because we have such a global audience I shied away from it [the Scots game] I suppose," he adds. I also notice that Tony Adams, that aging bulwark of the Arsenal defence, features in the Goldman Sachs "World Cup Dream Team".

Can they be serious?

PEOPLE AND

BUSINESS

BY JOHN WILLCOCK



"There was a lot of internal protest at Tony Adams - but there are a number of Arsenal fans here," a shame-faced O'Neill Mr admitted. But don't blame chief economist and Islington resident Gavyn Davies he's a Southampton fan.

And England? "Lucky to get through the second round." You read it here first

OVER 800 staff at Co-operative Bank's call centres at Skelmersdale whether Mr O'Neill gets it right; the bank has installed huge TV screens in its offices, in a gesture which management admits is "bowing to the inevitable."

The bankers reckon that everybody in the country with any interest in sport whatsoever will be watching the match anyway, so staff might as well watch too - and be prepared for a post-match surge in

David Dunlop, head of personal

customer services, said: "We have to be aware of the various elements, such as wet weather and TV programmes like Coronation Street and Eastenders."

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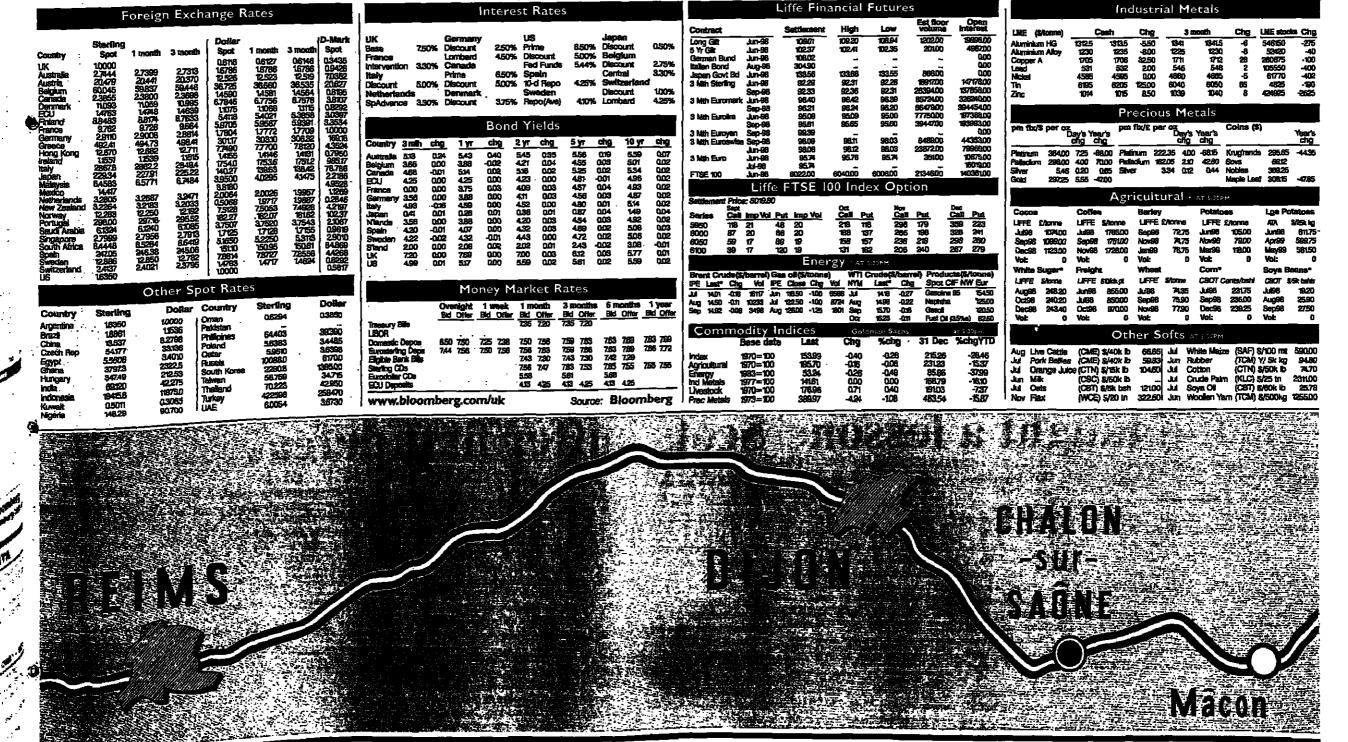
CONGRATULATIONS TO my pal and one-time skiing partner Tony Hob-man who is taking over the reins as chief executive of Proshare, the campaigner for wider share ownership, on the departure of Gill Nott, the present incumbent.

Ms Nott will leave in April next year when she will have completed five years with the lobby group. Mother of two and married to a City solicitor, Ms Nott is anything but retiring. She is aiming to build on her already extensive portfolio of nonexecutive directorships, which includes Baronsmead Venture Capital Trust and the soon to be floated HW Group. She was formerly

with BP. Mr Hobman, aged 43, a fanatical Brighton and Hove Albion supporter and one-time marketing bod with Barclays Bank, joined Proshare two years ago as head of investor services. As such he runs Proshare's scheme, which numbers nearly

"I'm looking forward to it very much. Its a real opportunity to influence social and economic policy, says Tony. Not many captains of industry can claim to be doing that.

I'm sure Tony will be able to negotiate the twists and turns of City politics with the same flair that he brings to the black runs of the French Alps. (Just put the fiver in



The philosophers' Coupe overflows



IN MOST countries of the world, sport is mainly a pretext for taiking about it afterwards, In Paris, the World Cup has become an immense opportunity for conversation afterwards, before, and, I suspect, during

the match. Conspiracy theory is a way of life here. Which is why the French team is discreetly shut away from all media intrusion and England - with its more open style of training and big-match preparation - has become the subject of heated café speculation.

Sceptical Parisians automatically assume that anything they learn going?" people used to say, "Ço about in the media is faise, so the ingenious (and flattering) theory which is gaining ground among asked "Ca gazza?" The World Cup avant-garde French observers is has generated a frenzy of word-play. that all stories of Portuguese nightclubs, kebabs, lager and cigarettes are simply plants, cumning negative publicity stunts designed to lull the opposition into a false sense of confidence. The French are refusing to be tricked. They still think England could be a force to be reckoned with.

ANDY MARTIN

AT LARGE IN

gaze?" When I walk into my local

café in the Rue Mouffetard, I am

"Je m'en fous" (roughly, "I don't give

a damn") has now evolved into "Je

m'en foot". The "je-m'en-footistes"

are the anti-football camp, who are

intent on finding something else to

do for the next month. If you want

to insult a passing fan you refer to

"le foutre-ball" (untranslatable).



Contrary to some reports, the game has long been popular in France and is widely played even in Paris. Left-wingers are not exclusively radical students. I used to play for the Ecole Normale Supérieure XI – Jean-Paul Sartre's old team. The attraction of the game for philosophers is obvious. The World Cup is designed to finally cut through all the hype and bluff and mystification. In an age of seven

types of ambiguity, rampant inde-terminacy, and transsexuality, football represents the last refuge of clarity, the relentless pursuit of absolute truth. While academics fumble the ball in a fog of conceptual equivocation, football, in contrast, is neo-classical: the World Cup is the sporting equivalent of Plato's philosophical heaven in which the soul can at last contemplate the archetypes of the Good, the True, and the Beautiful (having disposed of the Bad, the False, and the Ugly) in all their glory and simplicity.

I imagine Albert Camus - the French-Algerian goalkeeper and philosopher had something like this in mind when he famously remarked: "Everything I know about morality and the obligations of men, I have learned from football." This saying has now achieved the accolade of appearing on t-shirts around the world

Le Monde recently published a special supplement gathering tother eminent French writers' contributions to the intellectual discipline of football. It is surprising that they should have neglected the work of Jean-Paul Sartre,

Camus's contemporary and philoso-pher king of existentialism. "I am conscious of the ball," he wrote in Being and Nothingness. "But I am also conscious that I am not the ball. I desire to possess the ball. My project is to become a for itself-in-itself a synthesis of self and non-self, in

other words, God." Here is a round-up of other modern French thinkers on le jeu: Jean Baudrillard (Post-mod-

ernists): "The World Cup will not take place. It never has taken place." From the sociologist who also brought you an article in Le Monde: "The Gulf War Will Not Take Place". shortly before the Gulf War broke out. Offered a job as war correspondent, he chose to remain behind in Paris and write a book entitled, The Gulf War Did Not Take Place.

Jacques Derrida (Deconstructionists): "There is nothing beyond the touchline." A characteristically gnomic statement from this radical sceptic who maintains that there is no "truth" or "reality" only le terroin

or le foot. Paul Eluard (Surrealists): "The hall is blue like an orange."

philosopher I have come across is a man called Michel who runs a bar in Marseilles. When I asked him what he thought about the Jacques Tapie corruption story (when Tapie, then manager of Olympique Mar-At the end of the day though the

deepest contemporary French

Jean-Paul Sartre: "I am conscious of the ball"

seille, was found to have bribed his team to European Cup victory) he replied with a sense of genuine indignation: "Mais c'est scandaleur! He was too stingy! If only he had paid, the other teams more, they wouldn't have blown the whistle on him."

No relief

as Lomu

BY CHRIS HEWETT

for tourists

lies in wait

GLAD TIDINGS from the land of the Long White Cloud: the arch-destroyer, red rose nemesis and walking mountain range known as Jonah Lomu is back in English faces and

a virtual certainty to confront them in the first of two Tests at Carisbrook, the so-called "House of Pain", on Saturday week. If by any quirk of rugby fate he should miss the Dunedin international, England will instead face Joeli Vidiri, the 16-stones plus Fijian. Don't start praying. Vidiri is

considered by many New Zealanders

been bracketed together for the

appears to possess all the competitive edge of a turkey shoot. "I don't

think I have to tell you how highly I

regard Jonah's gifts," said John

Hart, the All Black coach, in Auckland, yesterday, "But he needs a gallu"

after recent injury setbacks and

that's why we've named him in the New Zealand A side to play England

at Hamilton this weekend. If he

doesn't front up, we'll go with Joeli in

the Test. We've been waiting to get

It will not come as any consola-

tion to Clive Woodward and his

tourists that Lomu and Vidiri have

been firing off each other in training

over the last few days. "I'm fitter,

faster and fresher than ever before

and Pm running 40-metre sprints in

under five seconds," said Lomu dis-

concertingly. "Unfortunately, Joeli

keeps slipping past me in the last 10.

and it's beginning to get to me." 🧏

over a stone, since he last pulled on

the Silver Fern at Twickenham last

December, and regards this week-

end's second-string appearance as

his personal "D-Day". So, in many

ways, does a far greater All Black per-former, the flanker Michael Jones.

Auckland returns to the international

fray after the second total knee re-

construction of his legendary, if in-

jury-blighted, career "He amazes

me; the man defies logic," said Hart.

But we've rested him, looked after

him and now he's back in the squad

with a spring in his step. I have al-

ways known that if there is one guy

who will never fail the All Black jer-

"Like Jonah, he's had injuries of late.

The so-called "Iceman" from

Lomu has lost seven kilos, well

him involved."

The outsized Counties wings have

to be the better of the two.

Woodward wounded by tale of the tape

Dawson recovery provides hope for coach as formidable All Blacks threaten further red rose woe, says Chris Hewett in Rotorua

IT DOES not get any easier with the opportunity to focus as directly as we passage of time; quite the opposite, in fact. Clive Woodward spent yesterday in front of the video recorder dissecting England's lamentable capitulation at the hands of the Wallabies last weekend, only to discover that the tale of the tape was even more grisly than the original evidence presented by his own eyes. "I thought it was bad on Saturday night, but I didn't know the half of it," admitted the coach on arrival in the Bay of Plenty.

If he did not immediately appreciate the depths to which his fledgling internationals descended in Brisbane on Saturday, Woodward now accepts that they managed to make Frank Spencer appear organised. "We're appalled, every one of us. We were all over the place, particularly in terms of defence, and looking back, I don't think I managed to get anything across to the players during the build-up to the Test. I've watched the footage of the game more times than I care to recall and I promise you, it seems worse now than it did at the weekend.

"Retrospectively speaking, we asked too much, too quickly, of a bunch of new players. I'm not trying to be a martyr when I say that I deserve to take the rap - when a business goes wrong, the guy at the top gets the blame and rightly so and I can assure you that had a fully prepared, fully representational England side lost by 76 points to anyone, I'd either have had them training straight after the game on Saturday night or Fd have gone after them with a shotzun.

might have done last week and as a consequence, important tactical information was not taken on board. We should have started the tour with this weekend's game against New Zealand A but the itinerary changed, Australia was bolted on and we walked first up into a full-scale Test against a very hot side indeed. It was a disaster, as everyone knows, but we're working on it."

Much of that work was carried out in a wet and miserable Rotorua last night. Woodward was particularly cheered by Matt Dawson's contribution to the evening's sweat-shop proceedings; the tour captain from Northampton, absent in Brisbane. negotiated an exceptionally physical contact session and will almost certainly play at scrum-half in Hamilton this weekend.

'We've got some experience available to us with Matt and Ben Clarke in the frame and I think we'll have closed the gaps sufficiently by then to give the match a real lash, said the coach. Sadly, New Zealand A will have a whole lot more experience, not to mention a clear-cut advantage in terms of pace and power. Jonah Lomu's appearance on the left wing after recent injury hassles

virtually ensures as much. As per usual, the New Zealand selectors have picked a side calculated to inflict both short and long-term damage on their guests. They possess exceptional explosive power on both wings, where the brilliant Glen Osborne partners Lomu, and with Lee Stensness, unfortunate not to make the Test party, installed at "But the facts are these; three or stand-off, the creative spark has four days of jet-lag denied us the already been lit under an England a guy like George Gregan [the Wal-



Clive Woodward suffers England's capitulation in Brisbane - It was a disaster, but we're working on it' he said yesterday Allsport

If, however, England manage to withstand the initial onslaught, they will almost certainly find themselves being driven into the Waikato dirt by a handful of seasoned Test forwards. Norm Hewitt, Blair Larsen and Andrew Blowers have all been selected for the Hamilton tussle and Blowers, in particular, is

in blinding form. The thing that really gets to me is my envy of other countries and other set-ups; it gets to me here and it certainly got to me in Brisbane," revealed Woodward yesterday. "Take

side still nursing first-degree burns laby scrum-half]. He is playing 26 inflicted by the Wallabies. knows in advance exactly what those games are likely to be. He gets three clear months to include in the power training necessary to any athlete and as a result, he joins all the other Wallabies in starting his season looking like Linford Christie. From one to 15. the southern hemisphere players are

bigger and stronger than we are. "In a way, I'm pleased and relieved that the Lawrence Dallaglios, Martin Johnsons and others aren't here on this trip. They have the opportunity get themselves fit, put in the requisite three months of hard training and, hopefully, come out the

other end looking and playing like the Wallabies and All Blacks. On the one hand, I get pissed off talking to people like Gregan. On the other, I know he and his colleagues are doing everything right."

Despite the very English Brian Rix farce enacted at the Suncorp Stadium five days ago, the profile of Woodward's charges is getting higher by the minute. If Australian rugby was rudely dismissive of the tour squad from the word go, the New Zealanders are taking the opposite tack by showing microscopic inter-

est in the red rose party. "They just breathe rugby here," said the coach, who undertook the anything resembling their best.

tortuous north island trip from Albany, the venue for an impressive All Black trial, to Rotorua in the company of a three-hour radio phone-in on the make-up of the New Zealand Test side. "The passion is something else and it gives us a benchmark to aspire to. If you're not prepared to

play your best rugby here, you won't play it anywhere Unfortunately for England, their hosts tend to adopt a similar philosophy. Judging by what happened on that extraordinary day in Cape Town three years ago, the very last thing Woodward needs to see is Lomu and company operating at

sey, it's Michael. He remains the best blind-side flanker in New Zealand." As expected, Taine Randell takes over the captaincy on a long-term basis from the recently retired Sean Fitzpatrick Mark Mayerhofier, of Canterbury, makes his international debut at centre while two Auckland colleagues, Junior Tonu'u and Anton Oliver, make their first Test

respectively.

Randell anticipated the wounded tourists to respond positively to their drubbing by the Wallabies. "England will be really hurting after their defeat by Australia," he said. "They've got nothing to lose, which makes them dangerous opposition and given the Australia result there will be tremendous public pressure on us." D'EMERICOUS PUBLIC PRESSURE ON US.
NEW ZEALAND (v England, Dumedia, 20 June):
C Canter (Wellington): I Melianu (Orago). IM Marge
arbeiller (Canterbury), W Linck (North Harbour).
J Louis or J Vidir (Both Counties): A Melianda.
(Canterbury). O Bonn'is: C Doned (both Audiend).
A Other (Orago). O Brown: R Brooks (both Audiend).
I Jones (North Harbour). M Jones (Audiend).
I Jenes (North Harbour). M Jones (Audiend).
I Randell (capt). J Kromfeld (both Orago).

Ireland taught a lesson

Griqualand West Ireland

IRELAND CRASHED to the third straight defeat of their South African tour as they were humbled by Currie Cup champions Griqualand West yesterday. Just four days before the first Test against the Springboks in Bloemfontein, Ireland's forwards were constantly driven back by a de-

Trailing 31-8 at half-time, the touring side were more competitive in the second-half when British Lion Keith Wood was introduced, but a worrying aspect for coach Warren Gatland was the number of times they were minute as David Rumphreys landed

Emerging Springboks in Friday's game against Wales, was instrumental in five of the province's seven tries, scoring twice and playing a major part in three others.

Griqualand West set the scene for the day as early as the fourth minute as hooker Basil de Coning kicked them into the lead, the Irish having been caught offside. Ireland were level inside the 10th

first 18 minutes as flanker Trevor Brennan put in some big tackles before being forced off by injury.
Griqualand Mest: Tries Marioran, Venter 2. Vermeulen. Lubbe. Bosman, October. Connegstons De Coning 5, October 2. Penalty De Coning. Ireland: Tries Foley, O'Shea. Penalty bossesters.

Humpfireys.

Grigualaud Wiest: Vermeufen: Scholtz, Vencer.
Lubbe, Bosman; Markham, Husselman; De Waai
Venter. De Coning, Theron, Van der Berg, Smit.
Krause. Engelbrecht. Watts.
TRELAND: Armstrong: Bishop. Humphreys.
Hegarty. P Clohessey, Jackmart D Clohessey, Gal-way, Fulder, Brennan, Foley, Wallace. Carke, Wallana. Kanna.

SCOTLAND succumbed to the first loss on their tour of Australia vesterday when they were beaten by the Australian Barbarians in Sydney In an oscillating match featuring 11 tries, the lead changed four times before the Barbarians finally sealed victory to condemn the Scots to their first defeat after three previous wins.

The Scots, fielding a secondstring side in their last match before Saturday's first Test against Australia, almost levelled the match in the final seconds when Jamie Mayer kicked through and dived on the

3 ∰ 9 ●

loose ball but the referee, Wayne Erickson, correctly ruled that he had

not grounded the ball. "I was quite pleased with the dis-play, or at least as pleased as you can be with a defeat," Jim Telfer, the Scotland coach, said. "We were 12 points down with five minutes to go and we nearly won it. Some Scottish teams in the past would have folded when they were 12 points down, so you've got to give some credit to

"It would have been a great feeling if we'd won because it would have kept our umbeaten record in Australia and given the team a real boost before the Test match," Telfer added.

"It doesn't really matter that we lost because we played quite well, it starts at scrum-half and hooker was just the lapses in concentration that spoiled all the good work that we'd done. The game was there for we a doute. The game was mere for the taking but we just didn't take it." Australian Barbarians: Tries: R Naiatu 2, p Howard, J Langford, I Fenukitau, S Drahm; Con-wersions: 5 Drahm 2, E Flatley, Pennalities: Flat-ley, Scotland: Bries: D Lee 2, J Mayer, I Jardine, A Rodburgh; Conversions: D Hodge 3; Penal-ty: Hodge.

tg: Hodge,

SCOTLAND: D Lee: H Glimour, J Mayer, I Jardhe (C Officer, 70), A Bulloch: D Hodge, G Burns:

S Reid (capt), S Hotmes (C Mather, 70), A Robburgh, R Metcaffe, S Campbell, M Stewart (P Wright, 69), S Brotherstone, G Mcliwham.

Ausstralian Bandardman M. McColland. Surger, it western and the surger, it western and the surger and s

Scots suffer first defeat caught offside. Their indiscipline a penalty after Griquas had been caught offside but the hosts then ran Australian Barbarians gave Griquas backs Andre Ver-Scotland meulen and Lawrence Venter the riot with four tries before the break. chance to pin the Irish defenders in Wood's second-half entry saw the their own 22 with piercing kicks. pack respond and they battled fierce-Venter, who will play for the ly to keep the score unchanged for the

Benson and Hedges semi-finals: Batsmen hold sway as Leicestershire and Essex reach Lord's

Ow Maddy makes Surrey suffer

BY DEREK PRINGLE

eicestershire 31 Surrey 291-8

icestershire win by 20 runs

URREY, THE winners of last seaon's Benson and Hedges Cup, will to be going to Lord's. Instead it will Leicestershire and Essex who inal Benson and Hedges Cup final. stellar form in this competition.

On a gusty day, the holders were Essentially beaten by Darren Maddy, recent Texaco series - he was given whose unbeaten century gave the home side's total of 311 an impregnability Surrey never looked like challenging until Adam Hollioake's late flurry momentarily quietened the premature celebrations.

It was game effort by Hollioake senior, whose 85 from 95 balls gave a one-sided game some late piquancy. Earlier his bowling figures of 8-0-76-0, after he had won the toss. made almost fictional reading. To get within 20 runs was something not many contemplated when the visitors were 201 for 6 with 10 overs to go, and it needed a fine yorker by his opposite number, Chris Lewis, to get rid of him.

The semi-finals of any knockout

No relief

for touris

calamity and error that you half expected Stuart Hall to be doing the commentary and not the Sky team.

Maddy, the home side's champion with an unbeaten 120 from 138 balls, was particularly grateful for Surrey playing their joker(s) - about four of them as it happened. Twice dismissed off no-balls, the first when stellar form in this competition.

Messed about by England in the one match against South Africa, batting in the middle-order - the stocky right-hander averages 156 from his seven innings this season. including three centuries. That his latest was played out in front of England's one-day captain must have best forgotten. been particularly satisfying.

It was not a one-man show, however, and the home side were indebted to both to Lewis and Ben Smith, who, if anything, outplayed Maddy while the pair added 172 for the second wicket. Indeed, only the Hollioakes were able to match the pair's crisp array of strokes after Lewis, claimed three quick wickets, including Surrey's England trio.

As expected against his old club, cup are normally begrudging affairs. Lewis's gestures were extravagant sides are expected to give no quarand when he had bowled the final ter in the bid for further glory in front of a full house at Lord's. Yesterday, It will be the first time Leicestershire

Surrey's cricket was so full of have contested the B&H final since 1985, and he was doubtless thanking someone higher being other than Maddy for getting them there.

For once, winning a useful toss proved to be a double-edged sword. Deciding to put the home side in, Hollicake had not reckoned on the effect the strong wind would have on his bowlers, who were buffeted to the extent that line and length were the exception rather than the

The loss of Ian Salisbury who tore his groin with the first ball he bowled - he will be out for at at least a month and had considered not playing after apparently feeling a twinge earlier - did not help matters as Surrey had one of those days in the field

Under Hollioake, Surrey have long claimed to be a team without frontiers. Yesterday, they came across a team who dared to raise a barrier and then hold it firm.

New Zealand are to bring in a third spinner, Mark Priest, to join Daniel Vettori and Paul Wiseman for the third and deciding Test against Sri Lanka starting in Colombo today. Priest could take the place of the leftarm paceman Shavne O'Conner on a pitch expected to favour slow bowlers. The Sri Lankans, who lev-



Venus Williams: 'I would like to make a firm statement. I didn't play at Wimbledon last year. I was never there'

as Lomi Hussain's golden touch wins day

By Jon Culley

Yorkshire 163

Essex won by 95 runs

ESSEX MAY not be quite the daunting force they once were but, having upset the odds by beating Warwickshire to collect the NatWest Trophy last September, they are going to Lord's again next month with designs on landing the Benson

and Hedges Cup in its final year. After a grim weather forecast, it always seemed likely that rain would play some part, but mercifully the intest escaped with only two stop-pages before Robert Rollins's stumping of Ryan Sidebottom completed a 95-run victory for Essex at 6.55pm as Yorkshire were bowled out for 163 in 42.4 overs, losing their last

Essex arrived here as underdogs and relished the experience, just as Nasser Hussain, the acting captain while Paul Prichard recovers from shin splints, had predicted.

six wickets for 50 runs.

Indeed, no one revelled in it more than Hussain himself, who put the personal disappointment of an unhicky Edgbaston Test behind him to lead the side to the brink of victory

BENSON AND HEDGES

CUP SEMI-FINALS

A D Srown run out

A J Stewart c Simmons b Lewis

B C Hollioake c Lewis b Ormond

G P Thorpe c Nixon b Lewis
M A Burcher hit wicket b Lewis
'A J Holitoake b Lewis
J D Ratcilffe st Nixon b Simmons

LEICESTERSHIRE V SURREY

Smith st Stewart & Saglain Simmons & B C Hollioake

20 runs. Surrey won toss LEICESTERSHIR!

by producing the day's key individual performance, which earned the

Hussain's mature, measured 78 - undisturbed by a collision with Yorkshire's wicketkeeper, Richard Blakey - enabled Essex to recover from a calamitous start after David Byas had won the toss and decided to bowl first following the tireless work of the groundstaff to mop up following Monday's deluge and ensure an 11 o'clock start.

Hussain had seen Darren Robinson leg before wicket to the first ball of the match and watched with growing pessimism as strike bowlers Chris Silverwood and Paul Hutchison combined to reduce Essex to 33 for 3 in eight overs, making light of the absence of the injured Darren Gough.

But with Ronnie Irani offering valuable support, Hussain decided there was no point in being negative and a partnership of 83 in 18 overs gave Essex a platform on which Paul Grayson and Danny Law were able to make the most significant additions, Law putting on 56 in the last four overs in an unbroken partnership with Ashley Cowan.

There was some life in the wicket to reward accurate bowling and Sidebottom, the fourth member of a

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Total (for 8, 50 overs)291 Fall: 1-4 2-60 3-72 4-72 5-113 6-193 7-274

8-288.
Did not bat: I D K Salisbury.
Someting: Multally 10-7-45-0: Ormand 10-0-58-1; Lewis 10-1-40-4: Wells 6-0-32-0: Simmons 9-0-69-1; Williamson 5-0-34-0.
Umphres: D J Constant and J H Hampshire.

ESSEX
D D J Robinson Ibw b Silverwood
S G Law c Parker b Silverwood
'N Hussain Ibw b Sidebottom
'R J Rollins c Hamilton b Hutchison .
R C Iranic Blakey b Sidebottom
A P Grayson c McGrath b White ...

Total (for 7, 50 overs) 258
Falt: 1-0 2-17 3-33 4-116 5-159 6-189
7-202.

) Peters run out

rung. Yorkshire won toss

Yorkshire pace quartet and their leading AXA League bowler justified his inclusion ahead of spinner Richard Stemp by undoing Irani with extra bounce and later trapping Hussain in front as the England play-er, who had by then faced 122 balls and gathered six boundaries, attempted to work the ball off his legs.

But the more effective bowling came from the less daunting but more disciplined Essex attack, whose early successes matched those of Yorkshire as the home side slipped to 29 for 3 in their first eight

Darren Lehmann and Anthony McGrath plotted a Yorkshire recovery, but their progress was slow as Essex applied the brake and the asking rate was always eluding

During one frustrating passage, Yorkshire failed to take a run off the bat for 24 deliveries as the nigglingly accurate Irani bowled consecutive maidens, sandwiching one by Peter Such.

Crucially, Such then had Lehmann caught behind before Grayson, whose left-arm spin yielded three wickets in his eight overs, bowled McGrath, who batted for 105 minutes in making a rather inade-

Page 1-0 2-16 3-29 4-59 3-112 6-16 7-153 8-152 9-156. Bowling: Cowen 8-1-33-1; llott 6-0-22-2; Irani 7-2-21-0; Such 10-134-1; Grayson 8-0-32-3; S G Law 3.4-0-16-2. Umpires: B Leadbeater and P Willey.

STARTING TODAY

TOURIST MATCH (one day, 11.00): Not-tinghamshire v South Africa (or Trent Bridge). OTHER MATCH (First day of three 11.30) Cambridge University v Derbyshire (or

Venus has memory lapse

VENUS WILLIAMS is into fantasy tennis. "I'm looking forward to Wimbledon," she said, "especially as it's my first visit". Actually Venus made her debut at the All England Club 12 months ago but failed to make a lasting impression.

She won't talk about the experience because, she maintains, it didn't happen. "I would like to make a firm statement. I didn't play at Wimbledon last year. I was never

In a way she's right. She didn't play, at least not to the level of a girl who is supposed to do to women's tennis what Tiger Woods has done

This time Venus has arrived in London early in preparation for the Big One. Yesterday she was at the Roehampton Chib, the Bel Air of the home counties, with her mother Oracene and they are already fed up to the teeth with the British summer. "I have been sleeping, eating and watching the rain," Venus said. And watching lots of television, with the cartoon channel high on the re-

Tim Glover on the girl expected to do a Tiger Woods to women's tennis but still waiting to make her mark at Wimbledon

the quarter-finals of the French Open last week, the Williams' went shopping in Paris. They weren't even sure who contested the final. Venus, who is 17 (she's not wearing blue jeans), is 6ft 2in and has a grip

like Lew Hoad. It takes her five hours to do her hair which is braided with 1,800 blue and white beads. There is gold jewellery everywhere and about the only thing that isn't gold is the sil-

ver brace on her teeth. The mother and daughter act is a bit of a laugh, a bit of a tease until daughter, Serena, gets into the issue

of race and sport. Her husband Richard, she him in the Fifties. They burnt his car ceed. She has a balanced life."

After losing to Martina Hingis in and he was not allowed in to certain clubs. He decided to quit. If my daughters hadn't been trained the proper way they wouldn't have had an opportunity in tennis.

"Other African-Americans are

having a hard time. It isn't fair. Everyone should be given the opportunity to be the best but it's set up to keep the minority out. They don't want it invaded. The sport could be taken to a different level. like in basketball. It's not enough for us to succeed. I'd like to see more don't have time for trivia and igno-

Oracene expected Venus Ebony Star, as she calls her, to get to the top because of "innatability". "She said, was a professional golfer and doesn't have to do anything. There basketball player. "It was tough for has never been any pressure to suc-

Venus, who is in action in Eastbourne next week, says that grass doesn't bother her. "I enjoy every surface. You have to have a plan. My mind is set on winning Wimbledon. You can play great tennis for a fortnight and the next thing you know you have a Grand Slam tournament in your pocket. I have been there a little bit. I know how

ple. I don't want people to look up to me and think that I'm not a real person. In the past I've been labelled an introvert. Now they think I'm an extrovert. We will continue to have Venus will not, however, be hitting

"I intend to be the best person

everyday. I want my life to stay sim-

Planet Hollywood when she turns 18 African-Americans on the circuit. I on 17 June. "As a Jehovah's Witness I don't celebrate birthdays." Her religion, she says, explains why she is so "well behaved".

Except when it comes to the question of Wimbledon '97. "I have played in just five Grand Slam events. Make that four. We didn't come to England last year."

Philippoussis blown off course

BY BARRY NEWCOMBE at Queen's Club

SOME TALL poppies fell in the wind at the Stella Artois championships at Queen's Club yesterday with the distraught defending champion, Mark Philippoussis, 6ft 4in, Sandon Stolle, 6ft 4in, Todd Martin, 6ft 6in, and Andrew Richardson, 6ft 7in, failing to pass the first round.

Philippoussis, the ninth seed, was so concerned at his 7-6, 7-5 defeat by the Spaniard Jordi Burillo that he is considering missing Wimbledon; it would relieve a number of players if he did. He telephoned his father in Melbourne after the match and emerged from that discussion to say that he is expecting to fly to Florida, where he has one of his three homes, to re-think his Wimbledon situation there.

Philippoussis said: "This year has been pathetic for me and I have just not been there at all. I am confused in my tennis. It is like I am not hungry any more, I don't know what er drove the players from the court is happening out there, it is not a great feeling."

If Philippoussis does play at Wimbledon, he is not sure to be seeded. her service to 5-4 up, Golarsa won 90 minutes yesterday morning but his chances of being listed among the the next three games to reach the later declined all interviews.

élite depending on charity. His world courts more than 30 years ago, was ranking suffered yesterday along with his confidence but he could still emerge at Wimbledon as a dangerous floater. He is one of the fastest servers in the world and Burillo, one of 17 Spaniards in the top 100, knew it was his day when Philippoussis missed two set points in the tie-break and double-faulted to lose it.

Stolle, whose father Fred could be

winner at the DFS Classic at Birm-

ingham yesterday when she beat

Denisa Chladkova, of the Czech Re-

public, 6-3, 7-5, in a first-round match

Golarsa, whose tactics were to go

to the net at every opportunity on a

damp grass court, was a set up and

4-4 in the second when a heavy show-

after 56 minutes play. After a delay

of 52 minutes, play resumed and after 19-year-old Chiadkova held

interrupted by rain.

beaten in a close finish by Chris Wilkinson, whose 7-5, 3-6, 7-5 victory made him the third British player to reach the second round after Tim Jerome Golmard of France.

Golarsa masters grass

LAURA GOLARSA became the first second round after 67 minutes. Go-

Henman and Greg Rusedski, who face Sargis Sargsian of Armenia and Stolle served for the match at 5-4

against Wilkinson, who was angered by some of the line calls when he seen plying his trade on these same dropped his serve in the ninth game.

larsa , now 30, will always be re-

membered for being within two

points of beating Chris Evert in the

Jones, the former Wimbledon cham-

pion, was relieved at getting the com-

petition going. On Monday there was

no play due to heavy rain and ye-

terday further rain delayed the start

Top seed Steffi Graf, who has a

first round bye, practised indoors for

by more than three hours.

The tournament referee, Ann

1989 Wimbledon quarter-finals.

Wilkinson, after arguing his case unsuccessfully when the umpire overruled a call in his favour at the start of the final game, won on his second match point when Stolle doublefaulted. Wilkinson, who has three times reached the third round at Wimble-

sive but Wilkinson clung on in the

wind, denying Stolle a match point.

don, was last night given a wild card to this year's championships along with three other British players, Richardson, Mark Petchey, and Danny Sapsford, and the 18-year-old Marat Safin, the Muscovite who, as a qualifier, reached the fourth round of the French Open. Petchey was beaten 6-3, 6-3 yes-

terday by the Texan Alex O'Brien and Richardson faded in the final set against Daniel Nestor of Canada, who won 6-4, 2-6, 6-1. Todd Martin, the 1994 champion, was beaten 6-4, 6-2 by the Swiss Ivo Heuberger, who lost his first set in qualifying 6-0 and has never looked back.

The five wild cards awarded in the Wimbledon women's singles are all to British women - Samantha Smith, Karen Cross, Lorna Woodroffe, Julie Pullin and Jo Ward.

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vel

Ascot thins out the Royal throng

By GREG WOOD at Ascot

THE USUAL blizzard of statistics will greet the opening day of the Royal meeting at Ascot next Tuesday from the extraordinary tonnage of salmon next week, particularly on that the racegoers will consume to the equally impressive amount of champagne with other than the Heath enclosure which they will wash it down. One figure, though, is certain to show a sharp decrease, and it Grandstand for all four days is the one which many courses care about above all others.

Not Ascot, however. Attendance at the four-day meeting next week will decline by about 10 per cent on its 1997 level, but only because of a deliberate decision by a course which is so tickets in 1999. popular that its customers were beginning to feel squashed Last year, nearly 10 week - and the unrestricted per cent of all days out at Reath enclosure remains one British racetracks were days out at Ascot, and the Royal meeting alone accounted for executive have not been idle

2.15 Cappella

limit the crowds before it becomes a victim of its own suc-

What this means is that if you were planning to go to Ascot Thursday, it may already be too late to get a ticket for anything in the middle of the course. A handful of tickets remain for the (bookings are taken on 01344 876456), but the Silver Ring is sold out on Thursday, and heading in the same direction on the other three days. As for the Royal enclosure, of course, the only possibility is to apply for

Those who manage to find their way into the course next of the bargains of the season at £2 per head - will find that the almost five per cent. Now, like since last year, and the benefits

March, the track has decided to closures as much as in the horses or betting displayed by Royal. The main Grandstand bars, previously the dinglest part of the course, have been redesigned and repainted, while an enormous marquee in the Silver Ring will offer cover in case of poor weather. The closed circuit televisions, meanwhile, will show uninter-

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Milling (Salisbury 4.15) NB: Sharp Shuffle (Kempton 9.00)

rupted coverage of World Cup matches for those who prefer their thoroughbreds with two legs rather than four.

If this is starting to sound like a PR puff, no apology is offered. Ascot in the last few years is something to celebrate. Serious nunters, admittedly, will always be frustrated by the conspicu- tween them next week.

many patrons of the Royal enclosure. Just as irritating some might say positively frightening - is the claustrophobic tunnel between paddock and grandstand which ensures that the toffs do not rub shoulders with the proles (who have, lest we forget, paid up to £42 for their tickets). None the less, the feeling these days is that "ordinary" racegoers are a priority rather than an afterthought, and the racing public clearly agrees.

It helps, of course, that the standard of the racing never seems to diminish. At a press briefing at the course yesterday. six leading trainers, including Godolphin's Saeed bin Suroor, discussed their teams for the meeting, often with considersince the change in attitude at able optimism, but such is the quality of the opposition that it would be no surprise if they could not manage a winner be-



Fellow trainers Saced bin Suroor, Ben Banbury and David Elsworth look on

when Suroor was asked to nominate his best chance of success from a large potential team, he opted without hesitation for feature race of the entire week, Daylami, who runs in the Prince of Wales's Stakes on the first day of the meeting. Mick recall to their cost, was also the

layl, who runs in the Queen

to date, while David Elsworth was quietly confident that Persian Punch will go close in the Thursday's Gold Cup.

This, as some punters may Channon believes that Bint Al-case 12 months ago, when Persian Punch started favourite for Mary Stakes on Wednesday, is the same race but found noth-

of 13. Elsworth, though, believes that the unpleasant experience of being put into the stalls early next to the highly unstable Moonax was enough to ruin his chance.

Mark Johnston is looking forward to the St James's Palace Stakes, the highlight of the opening day with a fancied still on their backs.

For the record, however, the best juvenile he has trained ing off the bit and finished 12th runner named Lend A Hand. In the competitive heat of Royal Ascot, however, there can be no certainties. Smart punters will dismiss nothing and treat short-priced favourites with suspicion. They will also count themselves lucky to reach the end of Friday with their starched dress shirts

SALISBURY

HYPERION 2.45 Academy 3.15 Last Christmas

4.15 Milling 4.45 Zihaam 5.15 Fawning

3.45 At Large GOING: Good to Soft (Soft in places).
STALLS: 1m2f - inside: remainder - stands side.
DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers best for Sf & 7f.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: LOW numbers destroy in a 71.

Right-hand course, mainly uphill and testing.

Course is 3m SW of city off A309A, Salisbury station (London, Waterloo-Eleter line) 3m. Bus service to course, ADMISSION: Members £13.50; Tattersalis £9: Course Enclosure £4.50. Accompanied under-16s free. CAR PARKE: Free.

LEADING TRAINERS: R Hamon 34 winners from 298 numbers (success rate 11.4%), J Dunkop 19-115 (16.5%), P Cole 14-91 (15.4%), R Chariton 13-69 (18.8%).

(16.5%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery 22 wins from 104 (success rate 21.2%), Dame O'Melli 18-136 (13.2%). R Hugbes 14-93 (15.1%), T Sprake 14-149 (9.4%).

FRAVOURTES: 163 wins from 464 races (success rate 35.1%).

BLINKERED FRST TIME: Mantello (2.45), Empire State (visored, 2.45). Des-

2.15 WHITEPARISH NOVICE FILLIES STAKES (D) £4,500 2YO 5f Penalty Value £3,207

FORM GUIDE

Addition: Filly by leading 1991 two-year-old Dilum out of an undistinguished mare. Cappella: Placed both starts in maidens, over 6f (good to firm) at Kempton and Folkestone, and bearen just a neck by Sundae Girl in latter. Language Figuriate: Petardia half-seter to the stable's good sprinter Royale Fig-urine. Trainer did not have a first-time-out turo-year-old winner in any of the pre-

wous (firee seasons, Lively Lady: Made a winning debut over 5f at Folkestone in April by 13 lengths in a seller and on heavy ground. Found things good deal more difficult in median auction contest at Northigham (5f, good to firm) and finished fourth of nine. VERDICT Languas Figuriae catches the eye on breeding and should be noted, but her stable is not renowned for two-year-olds making winning debuts, so this should go to CAPPELLA. Lively Lady's form credentials are not so good.

2 45 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (F) £3,000 3YO 7F Penal-

		ty Value £2,822
ſ	00-304	EMPTRE STATE (15) (Mass O / Marson) M Tomplans 9 7
2	000-1	ACADEMY (13) (D) (Stenheim Thoroughbred Racing) A Turnell 9.7 . R Hughes 19
3	03330-	AMERICAN COUSIN (296) (Middletam Park Racing) R J Houghton 9 7 LR Mills 5
4	0-3432	GAILY MILL (14) (BF) (D t) Rae Smith) I Bailding 9 6
5		ZANY LADY (16) (Shirley Barraclough and Parmers) R Hodges 9.5. S Drowne 20
5		MAY TAL (14) (One Over The Eight) Mrs P Dutfield 9 3 N Pollard (7) 3
7		FLAME YOMER (13) (Mahmood Al-Shuaibi) R Hannon 92 Dane O'Nesii 17
8		TAZNYA [14] (D Turner) C Benstead 9 0
9		SURPRIESA CARA (36) (No E A Whelton) G Levre 9 0 Paul Eddary 14
10		CHIEF BLADE (14) (D) (DGH Partnership) Miss G Kelleway 9 0W J O'Connor 6
[]	06-300	GILDERSLEVE (12) (Lancing Racing Syndicate) N Berry 8 13
12	50-4	LILANTOR (50) (Mrs M M Palling) B Palling 8 13 T Spraise 12
13		MUGHTY MIAGIC (15) (R Tory) D Bisworth B 13
14		MANTELLO (27) (Super Sprinters) D Chappell 8 12 A RicGione 1 B
15	900	TITANIANN DANCER (14) (Ms A M Cone-Farran) B Mechan 8 11 _G Hamson (7) 4
16	00220-	COURTNEY GITH (232) (Philip Saurders) P Burgoyne 8 11 P McCabe (3) 2
17		CAPTAIN JONES (335) (E H lones (Paints) Ltd) M A Buckley 8 110 O'Doubboe 10
18		DANCE TO THE BEAT [14] (Country Life Partners) M Meade 8 6 F Norton 15 B
19	553100	CORSECAN (28) (Ken Buster) 5 Dow 8 6
20	60000	ZARDFA (8) (Rore Stakes Partnership) R Flower 8.6
ì		- 20 declared -

BETTING: 13-2 Gally MRL 7-1 Hai Tal, 8-1 Empire State, Flame Tower, 10-1 Academy

FORM GUIDE

Empire States Has shown he retains his ability by making the frame in a 1m hand-icap and a 1m2f maden this season, and this drop in trip may well suit him. Acts

icap and a 1m2f marden this season, and this drop in trip may were succession soft. Visored for the first time.

Academys: 33-1 when making winning reappearance in Class F stakes (7f. firm) at Brighton by half a length from Myttons Mistake. Reasonably treated off today's 65.

American Cousta: Has been gelded and changed stable since his two-year-old campalgn with Brian Meana which ended with a poor run in blinkers. Earlier third in three 6f races, on soft surface and all-weather.

Gaiffy Mills: Besten a neck by Three Angels (a winner again since) in median auction maiden at Folkestone (7f. good to firm) last time. Also has form on good to soft 1 ooks a leading contender.

soft. Looks a leading contender.

Zamy Ladg: Drawn highest of all and making her handicap debut. Has shown similar ability in three malders (from 7f to 1m2f), making the running when fourth of 11 at Chepstow last time.

Mail Talt Did not have best of the draw but still showed improved form when third of 16 in Newbury handleap (6f, good to firm) last time. Had form on good to soft tast spring. Step up in trip of diablous benefit. Flame Towner: Has made the frame on seven of 11 starts, but yet to win. Came closest last time when second of five, making the running, in a maiden (1m. firm) as Balakses.

at Brighton.

Taxibiga: Handicap debut after three runs in 71 maidens, probably not at her best when eight lengths behind Gally Mill (only 6th worse off) at folkestone last time. Surpress Carac Uninspring form figures, but looks type to do better and was backed to do so on handicap debut at Brighton (6f. good) on reappearance, finishing, however, only ninch of 16. Stable has been quiet.

Clidel Blade: Has dropped 7th in the weights since successful nursery debut (7f. good) last September on the strength of three poor efforts (from 1m to 1m2f) this season.

Gilderstewe: Has not lived up to debut promise and no better than seventh off mark of 60 in handicaps last two starts. 3lb lower mark is unlikely to make enough

mark or 60 in handicaps last two starts. 3to lower mark is uninely to make enough difference.

Lillanilizar 20-1 on reappearance but improved on previous efforts to be fourth of 11 in makien at Folkestone (7f. heavy). That gives her chances here, and improvenent is not unheard of occurence on handicap debut.

Milightly Miligher Trained last season by Nerys Dutfield. Slipping in the weights, but she will have to show a bit more than on her eighth of 18 (off 60) and tenth of 16 (in makien) at this course over 1m and 1m2f on her last two starts.

Militantellos Blinkered and dropped 3to following his 10th of 18 on handicap debut (1m, firm) at this course four weeks ago. Dol not show a great deal more in maiders last season. Has started at long prices all starts so far.

Yikanileum Diancer: 33-1, 50-1 and 66-1 on his three starts in markens this season. But has shown a fitcle promise, improving with increased fitness when severith at Folkestone (6f. good to firm) last time. A dark horse, worth considering.

Courtney Gystis Trained last year by Milic Charmon, best efforts to be second in 6f sellers (good to firm) at Windsor and Nottingham. Best watched today.

Captalin Jones: Another who has changed stables since last season, this one leaving Brian Mechan. Showed ability on only one of his four starts for that trainer and was not seen out after July.

ing Brian Meehah. Showed abusty on only one of this four starts for that trainer and was not seen out after July Dance To The Beat: Looks a very in-and-out performer, but is now 10th lower than on fiver last appearance in a handicap, three starts ago, Good second of 20 over this course and distance (firm ground) penultimate outling was in a claimer. Consecant: Won a Lingfield handicap (1m, equitrack) in February by 10 lengths off a mark of 33. Only on 50 here, but has shown little back on turi last two outings. Zariffa: Apparently best effort when eighth of 11, beater about eight lengths, in maiden at Lingfield (71, good) last week is anything to go by.

IEEE/DICT This was handled to the of first hundred. VERDICT This race features a lot of "dark horses", or, described another way, a lot of horses with little recent form. In the circumstances, it is best to stick with animals with some praiseworthy efforts to their names this season, and that means concentrating on the top end of the handicap. Academy may well improve again and the form of Gally MRT's second last time is standing up well. EMPIRE STATE however should prove suited by the different conditions roday.

3.15 BOOKER FOODSERVICE CONDITIONS STAKES (C) £7,750 3YO 1m 6f Penalty Value £4,757

RETTRIG: 8-11 Star Crystal, 7-4 Last Christmas, 13-2 Double Blade. 1997: Winter Gorden 3 9 2 L Detton 2-7 Fav (L Curnani) drawn (1) 5 ran

FORM GUIDE

Last Caristasas: Won a Haydock maiden (71. good) last September and returned with good second of four to Scorned at Kernpton (1m2f conditions stales, heavy). Did not do so well over less testing 1m2f at York next time, so some sort of Step up in trip may well suit him. but this is clearly something of a leap in the dark. Double Rilades Kris colt out of a smart half-sister to Celeric. Stepped up marketby in trip last Friday when just held by Brimming in 1m6f maiden (good) at Hay-dock, but was awkward under pressure and is blinkered today.

Star Crystal: Disappointing on reappearance but bounced back to take four-run-ner Haydock maiden (1 m4f, good) by length from Shkmaal, shaping as if she should

VERDICT Double Blade could not be backed with any confidence, but there isn't much between the other two. STAR CRYSTIAL and Last Christmas. Star Crystal is the safer bet to get the trip

3.45 TOTE HANDICAP (CLASS D) £10,000 added 5f

- 13 declared -Mineman weight: 7s: 10th. True handkop weight: Sharp Stock 7s: 9th.
BETTING: 9-2 At Lange, 7-1 Wisher Johann, 7-1 Stausset, 15-2 Centre Court, 9-1 Half Tose,
10-1 Kraun, Sharp Stock, Songsheet, 10-1 Addran Da, 12-1 Gipsy Moth, 16-1 others
1997: Barranak 5 8 10 C Rutter 6-1 (G McCourt) drawn (2) 12 ran

FORM GUIDE

Mister Joison: Won five-namer firmed states at Satt (Sf. fam.) in May by neck from Ar Large. Did not do badly under penalty in handless need time. Acts on soft. As Large: Weighted to go close with Naster Joison on their run at Bath last month, but this one is much less exposed and may find some imposement. Acts on soft. Comparationer Won a Newbury maiden last May and rain in Group 3 events on her two subsequent starts in 1997. Looks harshly treated in handlesps, though at least shaped as if probably retaining her ability at Newbury or reappearance. Glosy Months Won at Haydock (Sf. good to first) off 3A last August. Not beaten far against her elders on return at Refeat, but has to imprine here. Arthin Dat Fairly useful at two years Iwath form on good to total; and shaped promisingly (well backed) when fifth of 16 at Wathston off today's mark on reoppearance. Can probably be forgiven her only effort since, as that was her all-weather debut.

probably be forgiven her only effort since, as that was her all-weather debut, years Undoubtedly well treated now, but has been orneliable over the last 12 Seamment Uncontrolly who measure inch. But has been a read to the work of the ments. Fourth on the all-weather last turns was one of his better recent efforts. Center Counts Thed over 7f and 6f on her two starts this season and shaped very much as if return to today's mp would forcum her. She drup in the wagns same the start of the season makes her even more interesting. Uniforced in a soft surface. Songsteet: Reliable, but no wors in her last 1 is not starts and on five on all-weather.

Songsheet: Reliable, but no suns in her last 11 auf starts and on five on all-creativer over the winter suggests but handicapper may have her measure. High Domains 11th Inner then on reappearants last season. That is because he went off the boil on his last five starts, so probably best wanthed taday. Kraum Only modest, but has performed eath credit on his last two starts, having a poor draw at Bergion last time. Goes on good to soft. Half Touer Now back down to last winning man. Ran decent races on the sand over the writter and possibly needed both nurs saus retimed or soft, Acts on soft General Sir Peters. Starts 1938 on a decent mark surface, off 15 butter at Pontelirant last September). Goes on good to soft, our finess not guaranteed. Sharp Stocks Another from the Ran Hotges souths Come last on register first will concerned in May the half a secret. New off 75 his last and register first will concerned in May the half a secret. New off 75 his last and register first strategy.

VERDICT At Large and Mister Joison can "gure prominently again, while Half Tone and General Sir Peter are both becoming interesting, but this can go to Richard Hannon's CENTRE COURT who is unproven on a soft surface but

4.15 CITY BOWL FILLIES HANDICAP (D) £5,000 1m 4f Penalty Value £3,513

	I . Comit? truck main . n
3-0325	SHALATEENO (16) (CD) (EF) A Parter SR Water 5 13 0
22405	HEART (113) (8F) A 95 Baster Man - 455 15 F 12
0-52	網はBBG (12) (BF) (C) AL si R Guest 394
100-00	ADMIRE (11) Duringson Rating Cath Mas G 44 to 2y 3.5 1 Martin Dayer 2
5-05	FOREST FIRE (SME) (16) A tibe Recognition and Smeathing
60-055	TEMPTRESS (34) (D) (BP) Pacty Serent, 11 Pers 5 5 5 1
12-320	Flying colours (31) (BF) (35 P 11 S Bale: C Sersiant 4 8 C A Clark 9
0-5540	RESPSAKE (S) (CD) (February Basier) III Units 4 E 4R Street 1
250145	KRKA (8) (D) (W Tabod) Strate 5 7 10 N Pollard (7) 5
256003	MAGNI MOMERITI (14) (Mas Seat Carle) I S Marce 3 7 10
	- 10 declared -
	5-0525 22405 0-52 100-00 5-03 60-055 12-320 0-5540 250145

Minimum neight: 7st 10th True handsop neight: Magai Manachi Est 13th.
BETTING: 11-4 Shakareeno, 7-2 Milling, 13-2 Forest Fire, 7-1 Temperess, 8-1 Heart, 10-1
Flying Colours, Reepsake, Kika, 12-1 others
1997: Shakareeno 4 9 8 T Sprake 13-2 (8 MCIrran, drawn (7 T ran

FORM GUIDE

nets on goad. Neart: Well treated on her form for Michael Stoute in 1996 but has not run on Flat since.

Milling: Well bred and lightly raced. Showed good arounds in teck defeat by Ormelie over 1 m.21 at Ayr. (good to soft) last time and will relish the extra distance here.

Admires: Won maiden on good to soft last year but well beaten all starts since, Big step up in trip here reads like act of desperation.

Forest: Fire: Progressing, albeit at lovely level, an maidens at up to 1 m. Extra half mile today is not obviously in her favour.

The started Part of the burds at 10 best number and now off 53. Acts on good to

mile today is not obviously in her lavour.

Temporess: Rated as high as 70 last summer and now off 53. Acts on good to soft, but has chances even on below-best fifth on soft at Spann two starts ago. Highing Colours: Looked sained by 2m and all-weather over the winter. Disappointing last time on second run since returned to turf.

Respeate: Ran well in first-ome visor behind Shalateeno, but in rear next start and headgear now discarded. Stays further than this and goes on soft.

Kilica: Won Brighton claimer (left Karl Burke's stable) over 1m 4f at Brighton in April. Below form there latest start. Acts on good to soft.

Magnil Monueent: 1116 out of handkap and an unlikely stayer on first try at 1m 4f. VERDICT Temperess can pop up off this mark at some stage, but this is a fine opportunity for **RULLING** to negister a first success on her handicap debut.

4.45 BALI RICE MAIDEN STAKES (D) £5,000 3YO 7F Penalty Value £3,805

	3-3	GLEANING HILL (USA) (9) (Maktourn Al Maktourn) M Scoute 9 0, M Hills 5
	0-	GREENOV (368) [Rossime Dobson & Partners] H Morrison 9 D
1	-00	MOON AT NIGHT (19) (Mrs D Joh) 1 Balding 9 0
		FARTING ECHO (Forum Trustees Ltd A/C Rannerdale) 1 Toller 9 0
	00-	TANNABAR (215) IJ Ruggles & Mrs A Ruggles) D Haydn Jones 9 0 Dame O'Helli 8
		ZENAMI (USA) (19) (Hamdan Al Makroum) Duniop 9 0 R Hills 11
		DAPFINE'S DOLL (2A) (Mrs Alan Gordon) Miss G Kellevæy 8 9
		GARBO (21) (Nimod Company) R Harmon 89 R Perform 6
1		INDIAN FLAG (26) [P Sweeting) Bridger 6 9
à	05	PURKADAS ROAD (24) (R A C Toller) / Toller 8 9
Ī		SPRITE (24) (Lord Camervon) R Hannon 8 9
		- 11 declared -
FT 22	NG- 1	1.4 Snote 7.7 Glassing Hill A.1 Tileson 7.1 Danisas's Dell 9.1 December

| BETTRICE 11-4 Sprite, 7-2 Gleaning Hill, 4-1 Zibazan, 7-1 Dephase's De |- Road, 12-1 Roson & Night, Garbo, 16-1 others | 1997: Mr Sponge (USA) 3 9 0 L Decton 8-11 fav (I Balding) draws (3) 10 ran

FORM GUIDE

Gleaning Hill: \$170,000 yearing. Third in maldens at Salisbury and Thirsk, in latter (1m. good) beaten just under a length behind Glaice. Bound to win a race. Serials or Soviet Lad gelding, fifteenth of 18 on Newbury debut 12 months ago. Bloom & Night: 20-1, pulled hard and tended to hang in maiders at Lingfield (about 12 lengths in seventh of 11 to Selfish) and Pontefract last month.

12 lengths in seventh of 11 to Selfish) and Pontefract last month. Parting Echo: Angon gelding, half-brother to the stable's useful 1m and 1m 2t winner Jailrezi, Interestingly, jockey booking, suggests he is stable's first choice. Tankabar: Failed to figure in 6f maidens at Newbury and Doncaster last autumn. Theaten: Dayjur cold out of smart filly Asi. Plenty of promise in 6f maidens at Sal-isbury and Pomefract last month, second favourize in latter when staying-on sec-ond of 17 to Tango after a slow start. Step up in trip here is filtely to be an aid. One of 17 to sanguater and another than the well bought judged on debut fourth of 11 to Lonesome Dude in maiden (7f. good to firm) at Kempton. Garbar No star on evidence of two runs in maidens last month, but was not fit.

indian Flags By Indian Ridge out of an Italian sprint witner. 100-1, showed signs of ability in I'm marden (good to firm) at Newbury last time, though ended among

Pursuadas Road: Ahead of Indian Flag and Garbo here (6f, good to soft) on de-but, but Soil only 12th of 18. Improved when fifth of 9 to Prevolence in 7f maiden

Springs hust under two lengths shead of Purnadas Road in that Kempton race, far-isting third of none after making the running. A Fairy King filly from the family of Sheakh Albadou, she looks sure to improve.

VERDICT Any market move on Parting Echo should be noted, but this should be dominated by those with placed form already. It is not easy to choose between Gleening FEIL, Zibanus and SPRITE, the bist-named calcium; the eye after being backed from \$-1 to 3-1 on her debut against the well-regarded Presidence. Zibanus is just passed over despite his move up to seven furlongs and the promise he ed here on good to soft on his debut.

5.15 BOOKER ADVICE CENTRE HANDICAP (E) £3,750 3YO 1m Penalty Value £3,353

		Barrer term in the last of a second of a s
	60-800	SURPRISE PRESENT (23) (Mohamed Suhali) R Hannon 9 5 Done O'Neilli 1
	-23365	SARA MOON CLASSIC (7) (Highgrove Developments) K McAgliffe 9 5
	110405	GENTUS (28) (D) (G Steinberg) S Dow 9 2
		FREEDRING (12) pH C Promotions Ltd) M Stanshard 8 11
		SARTA COURT (15) (Derek & Cheryl Holder) R Dictio 8 10
		SUN LION (27) (Smon Dutfield) Mrs P Dutfield 8 9 P P. Marphy (3) 10
		LANKLESS BRIDGET (19) (R M West) M Meade 8 6 T Sprake 6
3		GOLDEN LYRIC (19) (Mollers Racing) G Wragg E 3
i		ROGER ROSS (72) (H Lawrence) R Flower 8 3M Boberts 13
,		COURAGE UNDER FIRE (SO) (Mrs Adrian Ireland) D Arbudmot 7:10 N Adenas 8
ì		FRECRUES (5) IP E Avon) M Ryon 7 10 If Cartisle 4
•	4,-,60	= 13 declared -

Mahmus weisht: 7st 10th, True handicas BETTING: 5-1 Paneling, 6-1 Genius, 7-1 Roger Ross, 8-1 Imperial Prince, Bo 1997: Chasecown Flyer (USA) 3 8 4 B Doyle 33-1 (N Berry) drawn (3) 18 ran

FORM GUIDE

imperial Prince: All-weather performer who has been tried with the headgear on last three runs, Likely to find less exposed rivals too good.

Bomb Alaskin: A son of Polar Falcon sure to handle the ground. He has looked promising in strong maidens and has every hope now dropped to a weak handiperpense Present: Has little to recommend him but this trip will help him more

•

than the minimum at Windsor last time. Sara Moon Classic: Has some creditable form on the all-weather (third to Moon Gorge) but would not seem good enough for this.

Genius: Twice a winner on Equitrack over this trip, but subsequent form on turf

not so good. Raced against older horses last time.

Faunding: Second to Sweet Dreams in April and then met trouble here in Saligo's race. Reversed the form with the fourth when second to Lycian at Bath last time and holds a leading chance.

Santa Court: Over five lengths behind Fawning in Sweet Dreams' race at Nottingham in April and now 8th better off. Disappointed with Mr Dettori last time.

Sun Lion: Has shown very little since arriving from treland and hard to fancy.

Lauriess Bridget: Beaten a long way when fourth to Island Race on reappearance and would be a surprise winner.

Golden Lyric: Ran in High-Rise's Doncaster mattern at two, but basically disappointing and needs to improve to take advantage of a lenient handicap mark.

Roger Ross: Beater a long way by Genius on Equitorack and now returning from

a ten-week absence. Tricky to assess on his turf debut.

Courage Under Fire: Can be given a fine chance at the weights on his latest third kestone, bearing in mind the subsequent wins by the pair in front of him, As-

Dancer and Arcifeigh Charmer, less: Tned in blimkers as a juvenile and overall form disappoints WERDECT COURAGE UNIDER FIRE was slowly away when seven lengths adrift of Aspirant Dancer and Ardieigh Charmer at Folkestone. That form is well worth a second look in this lowly grade with Aspirant Dancer winning a hot handicap at Haydock and Ardieigh Charmer winning twice since. The main threat is Bomb Alassia, who does not look too harshly treated after the promise in maidens and from a stable to be respected in these low-key handicaps.

FIRST SHOW

SALISBURY 3.45

Horse		H	<u>L</u>	5	<u>T</u>
At Large	4-1	5-1	9.2	9-2	5-1
Mister Joison	7-1	7-6	7- <u>r</u>	15-2	(3- <u>2</u>
Contré Court	15-2	11-2	8-1	13-2	11-2
Samuer	15-2	8-1	6-1	7-1	7-1
Half Tone	8-1	10-1	18-1	9-1	9-1
Kran	10-1	9-1	12-1	9-1	10-1
Songsheet	<u>B-1</u>	16-1	B -1	<u>B-1</u>	10 <u>-1</u>
Adrian Da	10-1	<u>f</u> 1-f	11-1	<u>10-1</u>	9-1
Sharp Stock	9.1	<u>g.</u> 1	11-1	· 8-1	g_)
Gipsy Moth	11-1	to-1	12-1	12-1	14-1
Compradore	14-1	26-1	16-1	14-1	16-1
General Sir Peser	20-1	16-1	16-1	20-1	20-1
High Domain	20-1	20-1	11-1	<u>25</u> -1	25 <u>-1</u>

STHE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES |0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS 971 981 SALISBURY

Each way a quarter the edits, phoes. 1, 2, 3

C Corpl, 14 William Hill, L Ladoroles, S Startley, T Total

KEMPTON (E) 973 983 HAMILTON (E) 974 984 ALL COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970

SALISBURY

2.15: (6) 2yo maiden auction stakes)
1. WOORE LASSDane O'Nellij 7-2 (Stds), 10-1 Dim Ofan (Stds), 12-1 Coral Reef, 14-1 Sister Patrice, 16-1 Jamakan Law, 20-1 Rudi's Girl, Simpson's Domain (4tbl), 25-1 Goodenough Girl, 33-1 Lady Moorleys

Moorings:
13 man. Nk. 2 2½:. sht-hd. 1½. (Winner chestnut filly by Persian Botal out of Miss Ballylea, trained by R Hannon at East Everleigh for Jimm Racing). Tother £4.20: £1.20, £3.50, £2.80. DF: £21.30. CSF: £29.22. Trio: £43.90.

3.15: (6f handkap) 1. DELTA SOLEIL...

RACING RESULTS Fabulous Mitoto, 20-1 Courageous Knight, 25-1 Reimei, Slightly Special (Arib), 33-1 Il Bambino, Myosotis (6th), 50-1 Oscar Rose, 66-1 Ryndean Daincer. 14 ran. 27/., nk. 8, 7. 17/. (Mitmer boy gelding by Puissance out of KSero, trained by Mitpe at Wellington for Moran. Nelson and Newman), Toter £3.70; £1.40, £4.80, £2.00, DF, £39.90. CSF; £4.80. Et al. (200 Pc. 259.90, CSF; £4.80. Tricast; £185.76, Trio: £97.60 NR; Country Tharch, Glide Path, Kalin.

E166.94. Trio: E418.50.

S.13s: (1m fillies malden stakes)

1. HARRYH Rillis 4-6 fave

2. Krista Sanders 9-1

3. Honeybird Sand O'Reilli 4-6

Also raze 9-2 Buzy Bornb, 11-1 Oberaris

Mistral (86th, 12-1 Candescent, 14-1 Forest Dream, Mothers Help. 16-1 Sher Sun, 20-1 Searche Ribbon (56th), Shardelove (Asth), 50-1 Just Deserts, Portent, 66-1 Declan,

14 rass. 5 nle 19, shabel 19, man 14 ram. 5, mk, 1/-, sht-hd, 1/4. (Winner boy The Table 3, 7, 516-10, 75 primine buy fly by Shadeed out of Karibo, Trained by J Dunkop at Arundel for Hamdan Al Mal-tourn), Toest £1.70; £2.00, £1.60, £18.90, DF: £9.10, CSF: £8.67, Trio; £639.60 (part won) NR: My Poppet.

Jackpot: £43,985,90 (part won: pool of £49,562.82 carried forward to Salisbury ot: E265.30. Quadpot: £71.20.

BEVERLEY

2.30 Caution 3.00 Beverley Monkey 3.30 Skyers Flyer 4.00 Winsome George 4.30 Ego Night 5.00 Golden Ace

GOING: Good (Good to Soft in places).

STALLS: Inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers best for 5f & 7f.

Right-hand, galloping course with very staff 5f.

Course is 1m W of town on A1035. Bus service from Beverley station (full – Scarborough line) 2m. ADMUSSION: Club £14; Tattersalls £9 (OAPs £6); Silver Ring £3 (OAPs £2); Course Enclosure £2 (OAPs £1.50); Picnic area £2 or £2 per car, plus £2 per occupant. CAR PARK: Free.

LEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston 27 winners from 126 runners (success rate £1.4%). J Berry £2-123 (17.3%), Mrs J Ramsden 17-105 (16.2%), Mrs M Reveley 12-102 (11.8%)

LEADING JOCKEYS: K Darkey 50 wins from 220 rides (success rate £2.7%), J Waswer 23-153 (15%). J Carroll 15-109 (13.8%). rate 22.7%), J Weaver 23-153 (15%), J Carroll 15-109 (13.8%).

FALCOUNTY OF THE SUMMER PROPERTY OF BURNERS OF THE STATE STATE STATE STATE SUMMER FOR BURNERS (2.30). TO 201 WENSLEYDALE HANDICAP (CLASS E)

	£3,750 added fillies & mares 5f
ì	1 00-052 CAUTION (2) (C) 5 Gallings 4 10 0
ı	2 0-4044 ROYAL DREAM (12) (CD) J Berry 3 9 9
j	3 353003 HEAVING ABSTORE (7) (D) P Exers 3 9 8 A McCarthy (3) 9 V
ı	4 0-0521 DOMERNELLE (4) (CD) T Easterby 6 9 1 (6ex) R Whyston (5) 8
ŀ	5 1006-0 ARCHELLO (26) (D) G Oktoyd 4 8 13
i	6 002300 GOLD EDGE (4) E Incisa 4 8 12
ľ	7 0-4200 GRACE (16) J M Bradley 4 8 11
ı	8 560101 SURSET HARBOUR (20) (CD) 5 Kentenell 5 8 8 R Durley 17
i	9 721501 HELTONS EXECUTIVE (13) (D) E Alston 487 L Charact. 11
	10 400-00 SUMMER DAY BLUES (28) C Vol. 3 86A Calhane 1 B
I	11-00050 BALLARD LADY (11) (BIF) J Walmanght 6 8 3. Dean McKeoner 3
1	12 04050- LUNIAR MUSIC (315) (D) 5 Bowring 4 8 3 F Lynch 2
ì	13 00-003 DOKA FILINA (7) (D) Miss L Siddall 5 8 2
ı	14 0050-0 FEMARTS BAY (11) P Example 4 8 2
j	15 50-000 SUPERFRULS (5) Mes L School 5 7 10
ı	16 DO-05 DYCE (11) J Baking 4 7 10 P Fesser (3) 6 E
Į	17530000 HOLDERNESS GIRL [15] Ness J Craze 5 7 10 D Merragh (7) 7
i	10 UU UCU BELLINGE (200 par par 113) (662) (1355) (1071-7) (663) (1071-7)
ľ	18 00-060 PRTHAZE (20) (0) N Bycroft 5 7 10

— 18 declared —
Minhnum weight. 7st 10to. True hondicap weights: Holderness Girl 7st 9to. Pa haze 7st 6to.
BETTENGS 5-1 Dominaille, 6-1 Royal Oream. Hillernes Parameter. size 75 bits.

\$27 Bits. 5-1 Bookinstie. 6-1 Ruyal Dyeam, Hillions Emerathie, 7-1 Cas.

50n, 8-1 Heavishy Abstone, Samuel Harboux, 10-1 FORM VERDICT

SURISET HARBOUR, who bear Dominate by a beggt at Newcastle lest
time and – because the Isst-named is penalized for a subsequent victory is
3b better off today, has a good draw and should go close. Caution may

3.00 LYMESWOLD CLAUMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,000 added 2VO Sf

BRTTING: 3-1 Beverley Moultoy, 4-1 Fine Ways Fiyer, 5-1 Dispoi Clan, 6-1 Palace Green, 8-1 An Emcative Do, Saveet As A Nat, 12-1 Othery

FORM VERDICT

AN EXECUTIVE DO, who shaped well on his debut when five lengths fourth
to liferry Hall over 51 at Thirsk, has a handy high draw and should represent
a bit of value, Between Blooming is the form selection but, unless the ground
turns really soft, Could be at a disadvantage from his low berth. Five Mays
flower is best of the next. 3.30 ELTHERINGTON HANDICAP (CLASS E) E5,000 added 7f 100yds

I Ryme's Rascal, 10-1 opinion right, resonant search, 10-1 opinion FORM VERDICT
OURSTAN showed surprising special to win over a mile at Bath last tone.
Will be suited by the uphil firish here and night go in again. Supers Right, is weighed to go well and he, along with Thatched, looks a big danger.

4.00 ERNEST NORRIS MEMORIAL HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3YO 1m 4f

FORM VERDICT WINSOME GRORGE, who beat Fantasy Night by two lengths over 1 m 3f at redicar following his three-length victory over Onlo-1o over to day's course and distance in May, can complete a hat-trick. Believe Certise promises to

4.30 STILTON MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 7f 100yds

- 13 outstea -BETTING: 9-4 Ego Nigist, 3-2 Notiny Paris, 7-1 Dishambe, 8-1 Dileny Single, Caerosa, 10-1 Regency Times, Momentarily, 16-1 others FORM VERDICT

RGO RIGHT. who who ran White Heart to three-quarters of a length in a seven-furlorg maiden at Newcaste in March, will not be bothered by any easing in the ground and, despite a lay-off, his good prospects here. Noticer Park is a danger value Descharbe is one to note in the market. Momentarily represents a stable in good form.

5.00 CHESHIRE CHEESE HANDICAP (CLASS D) 55,000 added 1m 2f

SETTING: 7-2 Family Man, 4-1 Legal Issue, Golden Acc., 9-2 Opalenc, 11-2 Warning Reef, 6-1 Pallopep, 16-1 Karakia

FORM VERDICT LEGAL ESSUE, who who kept on strongly to beat Blooming Amazing by a short-head over 1m 100yds here last hime, stays this distance well and is fanced to go in again Golden Ace and Warming Black are the best alterF IN DEPENDENT,

IN CONTACT AND SECTION ASSESSMENT

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ENERGY TOTAL

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1 Tan 13a :

Venables launches new era at Palace

BY TREVOR HAYLETT

Terry Venables would have been heading off to France with England into the First Division. The man of he had launched his managerial many clubs and many more headlines was back at Crystal Palace, his managerial career turning full cir-

Venables missed out on the World Cup on two fronts – stepping down from his England post after Euro 96 and narrowly failing with Australia job the more I fancied doing it," he in their last qualification game - but said "Palace were my first club and any thoughts that he is a man nursing serious disappointment were instantly forgotten as he looked forward positively on his unveiling as Palace's head coach.

At Selhurst Park Venables sat alongside the club's new owner Mark Goldberg. After long and protracted negotiations the dream team was finally in place, the fivePalace to a club capable of chal- pable of remaining among the coun- else's - to the position of head coach lenging the best in Europe, underway at last

IF THINGS had turned out differently been interest in him 'but not serious negotiations" from two Premiership sides, though for some yesterday and not taking a slightly time his heart has been set on a reless illustrious flight with the Eagles turn to the South London club where old, "Our aim has to be to get up and "I'm not worried about career in 1976.

"Managing at international level for the past four years has been wonderful but I missed the day-today involvement of working with players on the training ground and the more I talked to Mark about this who knows they may be my last."

Should Venables inspire a promotion campaign in his first season the Palace supporters won't settle for that alone - after all they have celebrated a Premiership return in two of the last four years. What will really assure him of their undying devotion is if the man who masterminded two promotion successes in try's footballing élite.

"People at this club have wit-Venables admitted there had nessed going up and coming straight down for some time now and it does appear to be more difficult to stay up. "I'm not worried about coming back. I have great memories of my last time, the one that sticks out is the night we gained promotion to the old First Division. There have been times when I have thought 'what if?' regarding the international jobs and the World Cup but I

Inevitably there will be some changes to the Palace playing staff and the uncertainty surrounding Attilio Lombardo and Matt Jansen, the young striker signed from Carlisle in the second half of last season and now a reported £5m target for Southampton, needs to be resolved, Lombardo, the Italian midfielder who was elevated - to his year plan designed to elevate the 70's can put together a side ca-surprise as much as everyone

when Steve Coppell stepped down in March, is wanted by Chelsea but Goldberg is hopeful of keeping

"He still has another two years on his contract and I have been talking to him about extending it for another two years," said Goldberg who paid £22m to buy-out former owner Ron Noades. "Attilio wants to see a professional set-up in place at Palace and hopefully with Terry Venables on board we now have

Goldberg, who made his money in computer recruitment, will redon't allow myself to dwell too long structure his own finances to provide Venables with the funds to retain and recruit the players he

The new chairman, who has agreed a further option with Noades to purchase the Selhurst Park freehold, also confirmed Coppell's new role as director of football, Ray Lewington as Venables' assistant and Phil Alexander has been named the club's managing direc-



Terry Venables at Selhurst Park yesterday, returning to the first club he managed

KEMPTON

6.30 PATRON SAINT (nap) 7.00 Ivory Crown 7.30 Deep Space 8.00 Westminster 8.30 Court Shareef 9.00 Star Invader

STALLS: Straight course - stands side; round course - inside DRAM ADVANTAGE: Low numbers best for 5f & 7f.

Right-hand course. Separate straight course for 5f & 6f races. Practically flat.
Raccourse is on A308 at Sunbury. Bus link from Richmond. Underground station. Kempton Park railway station adjoins the course. ADMISSION: Club £14 (16 to 25-year-olds £8). Grandstand & Paddock £10: Silver Ring £5. CAR PARKE Members £2: provided to 10: Silver Ring £5. bers £2: remainder, free.

• LEADING TRAINERS: R Hammon 31 winners from 244

● LEADING TRAINERS: R Hamon 31 winners from 244 runners (success rate 12.7%), M Stoute 16-90 (17.8%), J Dunlop 15-116 (12.9%), P Cole 13-98 (13.3%). ● LEADING JOCKEYS: Pat Eddery 40 wins from 191 rides (success rate 20.9%), T Quinn 29-222 (13.1%), L Detzorl 17-112 (15.2%), R Hugbes 15-76 (19.7%). ● FAVOURITES: 140 wins from 451 races (success rate 31%), at animality, Eddery Table: None. LINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

6.30	SPELTHORNE FESTIVAL MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (CLASS E) £5,000
1	added 2YO 6f
11 .	ARZELLO S Dow B 10T Outer 12

•	. PRAIDO 3 LON D U
2	FLITE OF LIFE W Mair 8 10
3	. HIGH CLARITY R Johnson Houghton 8 10 G Hind 1
4	64 INGERGOUS (23) W Jarvis 8 TOL Dettori 1
5	5 PATRON SAINT (25) R Harmon 8 10
6	4U TOUGH GUY (6) M. lerus 8 10 P Robbinson
7	AUDACITY G Levis 8 7
8	CHIEF ABBA R Hartner & 7Dame Offices 1
9	0 FEMAL DIAMENTA (27) M Fetherston-Godley 87
10	630 GRECIAN TALE (11) A tayle 87 D Secure 1
11	6 MOCHO COLOR (30) 8 Mechan 8 7
12	O THE RAKA (11) G Bravery 8.7
13	O A LA PERRUCHE (33) R Curris 85 Lowe 1
14	APRIL ACE M Outre 8 5 Medicy !
15	POLIKUAN B R Maiman B 3
16	AURIT FLO M Bell 8 2
17	BELLE ROCK LADY (Well 7 12

BETTENG: 3-1 Patron Sa

FORM VERDICT

Richard Hannon's Juveniles Invariably come on a lot for their first attempt and PRITRON SAINT has the form, and the draw (stall one) to land this opener after his fifth to Hard Lines at Newbury. Mucho Color looks danger-ous after contesting a hotter race at Windsor.

7.	<u>00</u>	LEADER	MAIDEN	AND (D)	SKY
		£5,000 ad			
1	242	REICADE (SE)	Flowarth 9 ft	. 4	Dale (30.7 B

	440	BETT-ATE (20) O SENORD 3 //**********************************
2		DRAMMAYSHAN (57) R Armstrong 9 0
3		HELISHAD (5) M Haynes 9 0 D Blegs 4
4	6	KOMIG OF STYLE (69) I Sheehan 9 0
5	0-	NOMETE EDGE (231) M Stoute 9 DW R Sudniburn 12
6	20-235	CUBITUS (36) P Cote 9 0T Onion 2
7	24-34	RABBOW WAYS (25) (BP) 8 HDs 9 (
8	0	WAVE RACER [38] B Hanbury 9 0
9		CATCHASCATCHCAN H Cecli & 9
10	0	COSTRIC GERL (11) Mess B Sanders 8 9
11	0-2	MORY CROWN (18) E Dunlop 8 9Pat Editory 8
12		NOTTY P Hayward 8 9 A McSlone 1
		- 12 declared -
BEŢ	77MG: 7-	2 Catchageatcheau, 4-1 Rainbow Mays, 5-1 Oabstes

no, 6-1 Kalfe Edge, 8-1 Direkzyskau, 12-1 other FORM VERDICT

Henry Cecii takes on the coits with his newcomer filly Carchascaechcan, but Michael Scoute's KNIFE EDGE looks a winning type in his second season. Given a late education at Yarmoush last October, Knife Edge finished seventh to Misbah, displaying the same sort of promise as Teroom (fifth) and Bryony Brind (sixth), who both won on their reappearance. Henry Cecil takes on the coits with his newco

7.30 BIG SCREEN FOOTBALL SKY HANDICAP (CLASS D) 25,000 added 3YO 6F

		20,000 22442 0 10 01
1	40-425	OUIZ SHOW (4) (BP) R Harmon 97
2	07	NEGET SPERT (14) (D) C Britzain 9 4 Dettor 9
ĺЭ		BLUE XITE (11) N Litemoden 9 3 T G McLaughlin 8
4		DEEP SPACE (14) (BP) E Dunlop 9 2Pat Eddery 2
5	30-614	MONATOR (25) (D) (25) Dunlop 8 13
6	2332-4	ODETTE (9) Sir M Prescott 8 13
7	. 003	FLAK JACKET (18) B Mechan 8 11
.8	00-10	WEAFP'S FOLDY (30), G Charles-Jones & 7 C Rotter 5
. 9	450000	ONE SINGER (11) N Littmoden 87
1	0 - 0-40	ARRY MARTHI (SO) W Mair 8 5March: Dayer 10
١,	1 0-654	BUZZING (11) R Hannon 8 5Dane O'Nell 1
ī	2 050-00	ROYAL BLUE (14) M Usher 8 C

BETTERS: 5-1 Odette, 6-1 Mohanit, 7-1 Flak Jacket, 8-1 Only Show, Night Spirit, Deep Space, Arry Martin, Buzzing, 10-1 others

FORM VERDICT

BUZZING is worth a bet at decent odds after a promis-ing fourth to The Fugative at Lingfield when apprentice risden. He will be on similar ground tonight and can cut his rivals down off only 8st Sib. Night Spirit was on the faster side of the course when winning her maiden at Folkestone. Deep Space, beaten eight lengths into fourth on the slower side, now meets Night Spirit on 7lb better terms.

8.00 GUARDIAN PROPERTIES SKY £6,000 added 1m 4f

•		TABLE TREESING SELECTION OF THE PROPERTY OF TH
2	-10001	STATAJACK (11) (CD) D Baworth 10 9 7T Quing 8 B
3		MORALOONA (9) (D) G Baiding 591 S Droume 5
4	030-12	MRESTIMBLESTER (2) (D) (BIF) M Tompkins 69 1 (Sex)
		D Biggs 11 Y
5	143-06	POLYPHONY [25] (D) D O'Brien 4 9 0
6	00003-2	CLARITY (9) A Jan's 3 8 11
7		RYSTIC RDGE (11) B Curley 4 8 10
8	333004	BELLADDIE (16) R Flower 5 B 4
9	400-00	PREMIER LEAGUE (53) K C-Brown 8 8 0 M Carlisle 2
10		30LI FLYTERS (27) M Haynes 4 7 13
11		JELY WOO, (26) P Hayward 4 7 10
12	0050-	ACCONSTRET (204) H Collegridge 47 10 _ N Adams 9
13		DOUBLE BUSH (13) T MES 6 7 10 A Mackey 6

m weight: 7st 10to. True handicap weights: Jilly Woo, Moonshift 7s: 9th, Double Rush 7s: 7th. BETTING: 3-1 Westminster, 6-1 Yairy Keighe, Statajack, Clarky, 7-I Koraloone, 8-1 Mystic Ridge, 16-1 Double Rush, 12-1 Others FORM VERDICT

FAIRY KNIGHT is in the form of his life with wire at Policestone and on this course. Kleren Fallon has got to the bottom of this quirky character and the combination look up to this task after the latest course win by four lengths from My Learned Friend. Stateslack also won on the course last time (he holds the third Mystic Ridge), but the cut in the ground tonight may count against him.

8.30 JUBILEE CLUB CLASSIFIED STAKES (D) £5,000 added 1m 6f 92yds

1	14602-	BRAND NEW DANCE (300) D Arbuting 4 9 10
2	240-43	PADAUK (7) M Haynes 4 9 10
3	00530/	SALAMAN (FR) (156) D.O'Brien 6 9 10
4	0-4611	COURT SHARESF (15) R Dictin 3 8 9 W R Swinburg 3
5		SAINTLY THOUGHTS (25) G Levis 3 8 5 Paul Eddery 1
6		TARASHAAN (11) Sir M Prescott 3 8 5 5 Sanders 6
-		- 6 declared -

FORM VERDICT

The older horses could be stretched against TARASHAAN and Court Shareef. Tarashaan's stable is having warners after a belated start due to sickness in the yard and the gelding, who won a nursery over ten furlongs at Not-trigham, should relish this stamma test after a fine showing on his reappearance at Largheld, Court Shareef, again with Walter Swinburn after two wins in weakish races.

9.00 SURREY RACING HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m

	forest of release server int
	MR MARCA (2) 8 Meeton 4 9 13
50602	HEVER GOLF GLORY (15) (D) N Littmoden 4 9 12
	T WESTER 14
2140-0	DELECOUS INCOMESIT (14) (D) P R Webber 4 9 10
	, 740a 3
005-55	SHARP SHUFFLE (8) (C) (D) R Hannon 5 9 8
	R Hogbes 10
354-10	STAR BAGADER (7) (D) (BF) M Scoute 497
	HUGUITY (9) (D) G Bravery 6 9 6 18 HBts 6
00-345	SAFTRON ROSE (16) (D) M Blanshard 4 9 4

BETTRIC: 5-1 Star Invader, 6-1 Hogwity, 7-1 Eurobex Boy, 8-(Mr Majica, Sharp Shaffle, Saffron Rose, Roiste Spleadon: 10-1 others

The chances of **Willage Mathy**e stringing two wins together are unlikely and this trappy finale can go to **STAR INVADER**, who was awarded a race at Chester on the ition of Cantina. That was a decent run in a

334030 EUROBOK BOY (11) (D) A Janés 5 9 4 S Clancy (7) 600501 VILLAGE NATIVE (15) (D) K Cunningham-Brown 5 9 7

FORM VERDICT

Rodrigo Pessoa, the Brazillan winner

FOOTBALL

for £2,8m.
CZECH CUP Final (Prague): Petra
Dmovice (Kañia pen 65) Jabionec 2 (Hromadisa 73, Kohout 102) (extra time gold-

S Schinkel (Bel). LEEKES WELSH PROFESSIONAL

Dave Molyneux, partnered by Doug

Colin McRae regained the lead yes-terday in the Acropolis Rally in Delphi, Greece, after the engine of Frenchman Didier Auriol's Toyota cut out. Dictier Auriol's Toyotz cut out.
ACROPOLIS RULLY (Delphi, Gr.) Stage
16: 1 C McRae (SB) Subaru Ahr Smin
28.2sec: 2 D Auriol (Fr.) Toyota 4:06.47.7;
3.1 Kanidunen (Fin) Ford 4:07.05.1; 4 (C. Shirz
(Sp) Toyota 4:08.09.0; 5 F Loh (Bel) Toyota
4:108.58.9; 6 P Listel (It) Subaru
4:17.12.3; 7 R Madeira (Fr.) Toyota
4:18.04.1; 8 L (Urlos (Gr.) Ford 4:19.12.5;
9.1 P Richelmi (Mon) Subaru 4:20.36.8; 10
V Isk (Turkey) Toyota 4:22.08.5, Stamdings
affety two of fine specials on the third
and last stage: 1 D Auriol and D Girauder
(Fr) Toyota Corolla 3 fir 28 min 23.0sec; 2 C
McRae and N Grist (SB) Subaru Impresa
+12.9sec; 3.1 Kantidunen and J Repo (Fin)
Ford Escort 51.1; 4 R Burns and R Reid (GB)
Missubish Carisma 58.3; 5 P Lietal and F
Pons (It) Subaru Impresa 1:11.7; 8 C Sainz
and L Moye (Sp) Toyota Corolla 1:48.6; 7
F Loix and S Smeets (Bel) Toyota Corolla
1:59.9; 8 R Madeira and N Da Sivo (Por)

Toyota Corolla 9:04.5; 9 L Kirkes and J Stavropoulos (Gr) Ford Escort 10:47.0; 10 J P Richelmi and F Detorme (Monj Subaru Impreza 12.09.3. BASEBALL

SPORTING DIGEST

NATIONAL LEAGUE: San Diego 4 Cincin-INTERLEAGUE GAMES: Cleveland & Pittsan immostation of technics (chicago White burgh C. Houston 9 Decroit 5; Chicago White Sox 8 St Louis 6; Kansas City 8 Milwaultee 7; Chicago Cubs 8 Milmesoxa 1; Afanta 7 Boston 6; New York Mets 3 Zarmaa Bay 0; Baltimore 14 Philladelphia 8; Youns 3 Col-orado 1; Florido 4 Boronto 3 (17 Innings); Oakland 7 Los Angeles 3; San Francisco 4 Seattle 3.

BASKETBALL

Kevin Cadle's position as coach of London Yowers is in doubt following the club's merger with Budweiser League rivals Crystal Palace. New club president Costi Zombanakis, formerly Palace chairman, said: "Kevin is separate the from transper but one of among the front-runners but one of a number of people we are talking to."

Richle Woodhall, the World Boxing richie Woodnall, the words boding Council super-middleweight cham-plon, has been told he will defend his title against Italian Vincenzo Nardiello on 25 July. The venue has still to be decided.

CRICKET

A Test match World Championship A lest match world Champtonship could be closer to reality following this week's international Cricket Council meeting at Lord's. David Richards, the ICC's chief executive, said that world cricket chiefs will study on Friday several options for staging such an event. staging such an event.

staging such an event.
Jackie McGlew, who played 34 Test
matches for South Africa in which he
scored 2,440 runs at an average of
42.06, died of leukaemia in Pretoria on Monday night. He was 69.

EQUESTRIANISM

among the show jumpers competing against leading three-day event rid-ers in the inaugural Eventing Grand Prix at Hickstead next month,

The French International striker Nico-las Ouédec yesterday moved from Es-panyol, in Spain, to Paris St Germain for £2.8m.

en goal). SLOARNANI CUP Hastl second leg: Velenje (Vidojevic 5, 56, Purg 90) Ajdovistna 0.

GOLF

GOLF

BRITISH WOMEN'S OPEN AMATEUR
CHAMPIONSEP (Little Aston, Sutton
Coldfield): First qualifying-round
scores: 70 K Icher (Fr), 71 M Nagi (Ger),
72 B Hackett (Castletroy). 74 N Stillie
(Ger), 75 C Kuld (Den); S Sandolo (It); R
Morgan (Monmouth). 76 S Artical (Fr);
M Zeismann (Neth); S Petterson (Nor); K
Knowles (Worplesdon); E Pilgrim (Celitt
Manor), 77 S McKevitt (Reading), 78 A
Manuli (II); A Coffey (Marren Point); H
Monaghan (Herrior Wart Univ), 79 K Burton (St George's Hill); T Mangan (Ernis);
E Black (Deeside); S O'Brien (Millbown);
S Schinkel (Bel),
LIERKES WELSH PROFESSIONAL

LEKES WRISH PROFESSIONAL CHAMPLONSHIP (Value of Glamor-gam): 69 L Bond (St Pierre). 70 R Directale (Newport). 71 S Bebb (Mountain Lates). 72 A Evans (Pavenham Park): 5 Dodd (unattached). 73 J Lee (Cardiff): J Peters (St Mary's): P Evans (Royal Porthcaw). 74 K Dabson (Dewstow): D Morgan (Pontandawe): 5 Birch (Cottrell Park); J Barnett (Royal St David's). (Reduced to 18 holes because of rain).

ICE HOCKEY

Sheffield Steelers defenceman Andre Malo will start his fourth season with the club in August after signing a new one-year contract yesterday. Sheffield, meanwhile, will make an announcement either way tomorrow as to whether Don Mc-Kee will accept the offer of coach-ing the club for next season.

MOTORCYCLING

Jewell, scored a comfortable victory in the rielayed sidecar race in the isle of Man TT festival. It was the sixth victory in the event for Manyman, who wound up the power on his Honda after a cautious opening lap. The race, postponed for 24 hours because of bad weather on the ispecause or bad weather on the is-land, started in difficult conditions. "It was dreadful in places, very wet, and on the mountain visibility was down to 30 yards for a time," Molyuneux said.

Molyuneux said.

SLE OF MAIN T1: Sidecar race (3 laps, 113.19million); 1 0 Molyneux and D Jewell (Honda) 1hr 05min 45, 1sec, 2 K Howles and N Crowe (Yamaha) 1:05:04.4; 3 6 Horspole and K Leigh (Honda) 1:05:12.3; 4 R Haniss and P Biggs (Yamaha) 1:05:13.8; 5 J Holden and I Walsson (Yamaha) 1:05:15.7; 6 M Boddict and I Smors (Honda) 1:06:24.1.

RALLYING

RUGRY LEAGUE Super League's Bradford Bulls are re-

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Super League's Bradford Bulls are re-signed to playing this season with a depleted squad after failing to strengthen it. They have failed in bids for Warnington's Jon Roper, St He-lens' Paul Newtone and Alan Hunte, of Hull. Props Nell Harmon of Hud-dersfield, Leeds' Barrie McDermott and Terry O'Connor of Wigan have also been the subject of offers. Sheffield Eagles have been refused permission to take the 5t Helens sorum-half Bobbie Goulding on loan.

promote rugby league north of the border when Glasgow hosts the 1998 British Students Championship later this month. Warrington Wolves and Hull Sharks have both made a move for Christian Tyrer, the 24-year-old former Widnes Vikings utility back.

Scotland will continue the push to

RUGBY UNION

Australia have retained the side who thrashed England 76-0 last weekend for Saturday's first Test against Scotland at the Sydney Football Stadium.

AUSTRALIA TEANI: M Burke, B Tune, D
Herbert, T Horan, J Roff: 5 Larkham, G
Gregan; T Kefu, D Wilson, M Cockbain, J
Eales (capt), T Bowman, A Blades, P
Kearns, R Harry.

Wales have changed their entire team for the second match of their south-ern Africa tour against the Emerg-ing Springboks on Friday. Their coach Dennis John has rested all 15

players who started last Saturday's lest against Zimbabwe in Harare, which Wales won 49-11. The new side includes five uncapped players: Damil Williams and Garan Evans from Llaneifi, Ebbw Vale's Lenny Woodard, Ben Evans of Neath and Newport's Ian Gough. John's son Paul will capian Gough. John's son Paul Will Cap-tain the side from scrum-half.

WALES TEARL D Willams, I, Woodard,
I. Davies, J Funnell, G Evans, B Hayward,
P John (capt), M Griffiths, B Williams, B Evans, P Arnold, I Gough, R Appleyard, C Wyatt, C Charles, Replacements, D James,
A Thomas, R Howley, N Thomas, M Jones, J Davies, G Jenkins.

Volvo has appointed Helge Alten from within as senior executive to head up the management of its 2001 Volvo Ocean Race. Alten, a Norwegian who is currently president and CEO of Volvo Cars in North America becomes the managing director of Volvo Event Management on 7 September.

TENNIS

STELLA ARTOIS GRASS COURT

CHAMPHONSHIPS (Queen's Club, London): J Burillo (Sp) bt M Prilippoussis (Aus)

7-6 7-5; D Nestor (Can) bt A Richardson

(GB) 6-4 2-6 6-1; S Sargsian (Arm) bt M

Lee (GB) 6-2 6-3; A Clement (Fr) bt J Van

Lottum (Neth) 6-1 6-0; D Vacek (Cz Rep)

bt D Flach (US)

4-6 6-1 6-3; T Woodbridge

(Aus) bt AS (Br) 6-2 6-3; S Groșean (Fr)

ot D Van Scheppingen (Neth) 7-6 7-6; S

Penane (Aus) bt AM Behhutt (Aus) 6-4 2-6

(Bologna, It): Meris singles, first-round: J Diaz (Sp) bt A Chesnokov (Rus) 6-3 6-1; J A Marin (CR) bt T Kerola (Ph) 6-4 7-6; J Alonso (Sp) bt P Imaz (Sp) 6-4 6-4; K Alami (Mor) bt D Sanchez (Sp) 6-4 6-2 6-4; K Alami (Mor) of D Sanchez (Sp) 6-4 6-2. DFS CLASSIC (Edgbaston Priory Club, Himbogham); Hiomen's singles: L Golarsa (It) bt D Chiadkova (Cz Rep) 6-3 7-5.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL See page 31

SPEEDWAY ELITE LEAGUE: King's Lynn v Poole (7.45).
PREMIER LEAGUE: Hull v Isle of Wight (7.30).

OTHER SPORTS MOTOR RACING: Isle of Man 17 125cc and junior races.

TENNIS: Stella Artois Championship (Queen's Qub. London): DFS Classic (Edgbascon).

TODAY'S NUMBER

2.1m

The television audience who watched the First Division play-off final between Charlton and Sunderland at Wembley, won on

penalties by the south Londoners.

HAMILTON

6.50 Tropical Beach 7.20 Kalahari Ferrari 7.50 Connoisseur Bay 8.20 Segala 8.50

Coscoroba 9.20 Nigel's Lad (nb) GOING: Good to Soft.

STRLLS: 1m & 1m1f - Inside; remainder - stands side.

STRLLS: 1m & 1m1f - Inside; remainder - stands side.

DRAW ADMANTAGE: Low numbers beat for 5f & 7f.

Right-hand undulating course with pear-shaped loop.

Course is north of town on B7071. Hamilton West station (service from Glasgow) 1m. ADMISSION: Club £12:

Grandstand and Paddock £7 (£4 for CAPs. disabled & students). Accompanied under-16s free all enclosures. CAR

PARK: Pree.

**DIEADING TRAINIERS: M Johnston 33 winners from 171 runners (success rate 19.3%), J Berry 32-221 (14.5%), P Haslam 20-92 (21.7%), Miss L Perratt 20-242 (8.3%)

**LEADING JOCKEYS: J Wisaver 44 wins from 159 rides (success rate 27.7%), K Darrier 28-185 (15.1%), J Carroll 22-200 (11%), Dean McKeown 12-140 (8.6%).

**PANOURITES: 208 wins from 559 races (success rate 27.3%).

37.2%).
VISORED FIRST TIME: Tropical Beach (6.50).
LONG DISTANCE TRAVELLER: Compoisseur Bay (7.50)

6.50 DANKA AMATEUR RIDERS' SKY HANDICAP (CLASS E) £5,000 added 5f -00100 YOUNG ESGNEG (26) (D) D Chapman 4 12 0-

011326 JUNEOR MULTIN (7) (9) J Berry 3 10 13 Mass Reverting Messiall (5) 6 000-00 TROPICAL BEACH (9) (00) J Pearce 5 10 5.

000000 BRIGHT DESPRT (9) M Wane 5 9 10 Mr V interior (5) 3 V Minimum weight: 9st 10ib. True handlary weights: Another Nightmore 9st 9b., BiT-Em 9st 7b., Str. For Luck 9st 6b., Lord Cornelious 8st 3b., Bright has set 3st 9st 9b. BETTING: 7-2 Young Eignig, 4-1 Justof Maffin, 3-2 Tropical Beach, Pallium, 5-1 Biff-Em, 10-1 Another Hightmare, 12-1 Str For Lack, 28-1 others

FORM VERDICT Only nine runners but a high draw can still be a plus if the ground goes soft. **YOUNG BIGGING** is best placed and can follow up the stable's win with Squire Corrie last year. Young Bigwig was well handicapped when he beat Stuffed at Thirsk three outings ago and is now in a weaker sprint off just a 3lb higher mark.

7.20 GLENGOYNE SINGLE SKY

STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 2YO 6F

A4 KALAHARI FERRARI (47) J Berry 9 0 K Darley 4
LOVE DIAMONEDS M Joinston 9 0 Dona McKanem 3
3 SERRESOTA (14) N Calegian 9 0 Dona McKanem 3
4 DO PERCHANCER (4) P Hasten 9 0 Dona Glove 2
5 SOCIETY SMOOF M JOINSON 9 0 DONA D Carroll 1
5 BETTING: 11-8 Interesota, 3-1 Society Smoop, 4-1 Katahari Ferrari, 9-2 Love Diamonds, 16-1 Perchancer

FORM VERDICT MALAMARI FERRARS has been crying out for this sixth furiong on his fine showings at Ripon and Carlisle. He gets the nod over Neville Callaghan's raider Mismesogets the nod over Neville Callaghan's raider Mismesogets who almost fell two furiongs out in the Yarmaout ta, who almost fell two furiongs out in the Yarmaout race won by Muzaahab. Mark Johnston is well capable race won by Muzaahab. Mark Johnston is well capable of whinthe with newcomers and he runs two here. Such of winning with newcorners and he runs two here. Sole of winning with newcorners and he runs two here. Sole only Second the mount of John Carroll, and Love Diamonds with Dean McKeown aboard. The market will be the dear with Dean McKeown aboard.

7.50 WESTCARS SAAB CONDITIONS STAKES (CLASS C) £10,000 added 3YO to 16 2-21 COMMONSTRIE BAY (12) P Chapple-Hyam 8 12.1 Rold 3 421-00 LOVE ACADEMY (55) M Johnston 8 12. Dean McKenner 1

- 5 declared ~ BETTING: 5-4 Commisseer Bay, 13-8 Resulty Princess, 11-2 Love Academy, 8-1 Jacons, 33-1 Bean Vienna

FORM VERDICT Peter Chapple-Hyam and John Reid are rare visitors to this course and the long haul should prove worthwhile with CONNOISSEUR BAY looking the type to progress after beating rubbish at Bath. His previous second to Henry Cecil's Eaton Square at Newbury was promising and he may be up to coping with the very tough filly Equity Princess, who has a better chance here com-pared to Newmarket last time when fifth to Midnight Line in the Pretty Polly.

8.20 SAINTS AND SINNERS SKY £10,000 added 1m 65vds D36214 TANGELED (7) (D) (BF) D Chapman 7 9 11 (6ex)

2-2614 STORRELESS (12) (CD) / Golde 7 9 10 X Darley 5 0/5305 SEGALA (12) (CD) / Ordel 7 9 20 X Supple 2 60-541 MRSS SALSA DANCER (25) (D) 0 Smith 3 8 11 ... Daile (Bhoon 4 145200 AMBER REGERT (A) P Hasiam 3 8 10 ... / Yeaver 2

- 5 declared -BETTING: 5-2 Miss Salsa Dapon; 11-4 Tabbild, 3-1 Stormless, 5-1 Segala, 11-2 Amber Regent FORM VERDICT

This is a capy little race with the in-form trio Sconnings, Mais Salesa Dancer and Taichild all having an obvious chance. Stormiess will take the beating if the ground becomes testing, but the main fancy is for AMBER RICENT with Paul Fessey being good value for his allowance. A winner on the all-weather. Amber Regent had a big weight at Ayr after his fine second to Shamwari Song in a claimer at Beverley.

8.50 WILCON HOMES SELLING STAKES (CLASS E) £5,000 added 1m 1f

-30030 SMEET MOTE (26) Miss L Perratt 4 B 11 __ J Weaver 1 255060 MADMAN'S INCREE (12) M Johnston 3 B 9

BETTHES: 9-4 Coccoroba, 3-1 Rechard 95:THES: 9-4 Coccoroba, 9-4 Rechard 95:THES: FORM VERDICT FALLS O'MONRESS beat Break The Rules in a claimer at Ayr last September. She wouldn't be one to put the mortgage on

test September. She wouldn't be one to put the morrgage on but this is a lowly seller well within her range. Coscoroba takes a drop in class after a third to Nikopen Rocks at Mus-selburgh, and Sweet Note has the strength of Jason Weaver after the third to Stormless here last month. 9.20 SUN CHEMICAL SCOTTISH H'CAP (CLASS D) £7,500 added 1m 5f

0412 METTA HIFTHIA (105) M Johnston 3 8 10 ... 335-25 HELL FRANK DANCER (S) W Brisboure 7 7 10

066661 LORD ADMOCREE (9) (CD) D Notes 10 7 10 (Sex Presset (3) 5 V

7 declared -- Presset (3) 5 V

Minkows weight: 7s: 100. The handloop weight: Lord Advocate 7s: 70.
SETTINGS 15-8 Riger's Lad, 11-2 Lord Advocate, 5-1 George Dillingham, Nesta Ruffen, 13-2 Pilini, 7-1 Field Of Vision, 8-1 Hill Parm Demont

FORM VERDICT

Despite the 10st; MIGEL'S LAD is going to take some carching. This talented winning hurder returned to the Flat to dely a welter burden at Ripon and Jason Weaver is again abound. John Reid is an interesting booking for George Dillegham, another who has been winning over furtiles and the type to come late off a strong pace. Flaid Of Vision may not be strong enough, and Lord Advocate shouldn't best Nigel's Lad even in receipt of so much weight.

UTTOXETER 6.40 Barton Chic 7.10 Diego 7.40 Derring Bridge 8.10 Green Crusader 8.40 Last Try

9.10 Majestic Affair

GOING: Good to Soft (Soft in places).

• Left-hand course, Run-In of 170yds.
• Course is south-east of town near B5017. Uttowerer station (Derby-Crewe line) adjoins course. ADMINSSION: Club E15 (OAPs £12): Ratersalls £10 (OAPs £7): Centre of course £5, CAR PARK: Free.
• LEADING TRAINIERS: III Pipe 32 winners from 115 (Success rate 27,8%). D Nicholson 21-91 (23,1%), S Brookshaw 17-75 (22,7%), Miles H Knight 17-81 (21%).
• LEADING JOCKEYST. A Maggine 16 wins from 67 rides (success rate 23,9%). N Williamson 16-95 (16,8%). C Liewellys 12-75 (16%), III A Pitzgerald 12-76 (15,4%).
• FRWOURTTES: 239 wins from 623 races (success rate 38,4%).

38.4%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME; Gladstone(visored, 6.40), Dear

6.40 GALWAY FESTIVAL MAIDEN HUR-DLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m

PP/42 WINDASHOT (16) D McCan 8 11 5 A Dobbi

BETTERG: 9-4 Barton Chic, 3-1 Dysart O'des, Whatson - 12 declared - BETTERG: 9-4 Barton Chic, 3-1 Dysart O'des, Whatsohot, 8-1 Adbira's Gest, 15-1 Festy Boss, Gladitose, 26-1 Buck Board, Gampan Gal, 25-1 others FORM VERDICT A faller last time, BARTON CHPC holds all the aces. This mare has promised to win a race and she has experience of the course with seconds to Sun Alert and Champagne Friend (previous winner Archam well back in third). Now with the step up in distance she should finally open

7.10 SPRINGBANK STAFFORDSHIRE NEWSLETTER HANDICAP HURDLE

(E) £3,000 added 2m 4f 110yds 20063 REPRINTS (25) P.R. Nichber 7 11 11 ______ A mcCarthy 43311- DEGG (16) (C) (D) M. Phren 5 11 9 _____ C Liumbigs 40544- WENGE'S PRODE (13) (C) (D) R. Holleshed 7 11 2 _____ Grand Lance

— 10 declared —

Minimum: 10sz. True handkop weights: Va Utu 9st 12th, Dinky Dora 9st
12th, Star Performer 9st 6th, Cyrill Henry 9st 4th, Partion 8st 10th.

BETTRIKE 11-4 Diago, 5-1 Ripartes, Diaky Dora, 6-1 Winar's Prida,
Ita Utu, 8-1 Racing Hands, 14-1 Cassal Whee; 16-1 others

FORM VERDICT

Diego is on a hat-trick and is a winner on the course.

However, he may find the underfoot conditions against him bright. What's Pride is capable of going very close off a favourable handicap mark, but VA UTU is a Maroff a favourable handkap mark, but we will be a mar-tin Pipe runner with a feather weight and sure to take the bearing after the mud win (previous form on fast ground) at Exeter in March. His only subsequent run nine days ago will have put a further edge on him. 7.40 ASHLEY ADAMS NOVICE CHASE

57651- PRUSSIA [13] (C) W Cby 7 11 8... A Fitzgerald 36422- DERIGHO BRIDGE [13] (CD) Mrs 5 Johnson 8 11 2... M Marston 11 2... M M

(CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m

- 2 deciared -BETTYNG: 11-4 Derring Bridge, 7-2 Pressta, 4-1 Lough Tolly, 5-2 Super Electure, 6-1 Oncen's Assard, 7-1 Salith Minstrel, 33-1 others FORM VERDICT

Denring Bridge and Osseen's Asserd are dour stayers, but the recent winning chaser PRUSSIA may just be good enough to follow up. The ground has come right for Seper Ribchart, who is well capable of going well in this class with Seamus Durack a good booking. Lough Tuilly was a points winner in Ireland and can be considered on his showing against Ashwell Boy at Stratford, though he was pulled up next time.

8.10 BILL LOVE TROPHY HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m 110yds

30021- GREEN CRUSADER (14) Mrs V Ward 7 11 1.

21115- MARKE OF OUR FRIHER (186) (D) P Bowen 5 11 10...

14423- TURRILL HOUSE (77) W Museum 6 10 DM Monney (7)
1111P/ WIRSUENGALE (613) (C) (D) Mrs J Planan 8 10 D. # Carrord ## Minknum weight: 10st. inc hambiogo weight: Weiengole 9st 7fb.
BETTENG: 7-4 Name Of Our Father, 15-8 Green Crusader, 3-1 Tar-rill House, 13-2 Minknumia.

FORM VERDICT

Rame Of Our Fatther will like the ground and impressed at Ascot and Chepstow last November prior to the fifth to Friendship at Sandown, With the stable's horses in such great form Warren Marston's mount can be expected to be in top condition on this return to action. But GREEN CRUSADER: remains a gelding with a turn of foot and small fields suit him ideally, just as it did at Cartmel a fortnight ago.

8.40 EMS GRILLON HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2m /3P3P- STORM RALCON (16) (D) N Michel 8 11 10 G Up 31234- DEAR DO (19) (D) N Henderson 11 11 5

63)44- LAST TRY (14) [0) [837] B Roinest 7 10 11 A S Saith
24210- ILEMIN (261) [0) P Exis 11 10 0 M. Altera
000P4- MATE'S JONER (74) 0 O'Nelt 12 10 0 V Stattery
- 5 declared Union metals: 100 True bundless Alinkum weight; 10st. True handicap weight; Notes's John 9st 7th. RETTING: 11-8 Dear Do. 5-4 Stores Felcon, 11-4 Last Try, 10-1 in, 33-1 Katie's John. FORM VERDICT

The front-running LAST TRY won at Sedgefield in March and then did little wrong in a better race at Alneve. He dissppointed at Carringle a fortnight ago but looks worth another chance in this weak race. Dear Do won his first race in two years when he held of! High Learie at Fontwell in February. 9.10 DRAYTON MERCEDES NOVICE HURDLE (D) £3,750 added 2m

O- ARC OF THE DIVER (49) Miss V Williams 5 11 0

Q5- MAJESTIC AFTRIR (186) N Henderson 6 11 0 (5- MARKENIK AFFWAR (186) N Henderson 6 11 0 ... M A Pizzgarald 3 SFFP/P MARKENIE (9) M Sheppard 9 11 0... M G Barfood-Samet 4 32233- MR MONTAGUE (P33) T Downelly 5 11 0 ... A Ragadre 5 0 MEELCTBIG (874) G H.Jones 9 11 0 ... B Postero 6 P/PP-P RIVER RUMEPUS (9) Miss S Baster 6 11 0 D Divero 7 MACK FULSH (P23) B Rothwell 4 10 9 ... A 5 Smith 8 RAME NEW (P376) 5 Melor 4 10 9 ... B Postero 9 PO- SHARP MOME (12) Miss H Knight 6 10 9 ... J Collecty 10 003PO- WEET AND SEE (13) T Wal 4 10 9 ... Gary Lyous - 10 declared - BETTING: 5-2 Majestic Affait, 7-2 Mr Montagon, 5-1 Marc And See, 6-1 Arc Of The Diver. 8-1 Jack Floob. States Mone. 12-1 Roberts

See, 6-1 Arc Of The Disex, 8-1 Jack Plants, Shairp Mose, 12-1 Rab Hug, 20-1 achers

FORM VERDICT

Nicky Henderson has been patient with MAJESTIC AFFAIR, who is in a weak race over the minimum trip after falling to get home over two and a half in Jet Rules' race at Towcester. He has the took of a chaser but he can take this soft race en route to better things. Are Of The Diver is another dropped in distance after falling to stay at Perth, and the likes of Weet And See and Re-from-the-flat Jack Flash are others with a roce in them.

Norway's coach has confounded the critics of his long-ball approach with a string of impressive warm-up results

Olsen extols order of the boot

BY PHIL SHAW

EGIL OLSEN never did set much store by conformity. This is a man who used to zip around his workplace on roller skates and espouses left-wing views in a largely right-wing sport. But what really marks Norway's manager down as idiosyncratic, at least in the context of the World Cup, is his belief in the

viability of the long-ball game. To hear Olsen extol the virtues of "the penetrative way of playing" is to be transported back to the mid-1980s. To a time when Watford and Wimbledon terrorised defences with their direct approach. When indignant guardians of the beautiful game demonised those who championed concepts like the POMO (position of maximum opportunity, aka the far post).

In the Premiership, where 30 Norwegians earn their living at clubs like Liverpool, Manchester United, Chelsea and Leeds, such methods and theories are outmoded, not to say discredited. If employed at France 98, where they open against Morocco tonight, they would almost certainly make Norway the only ones in step.

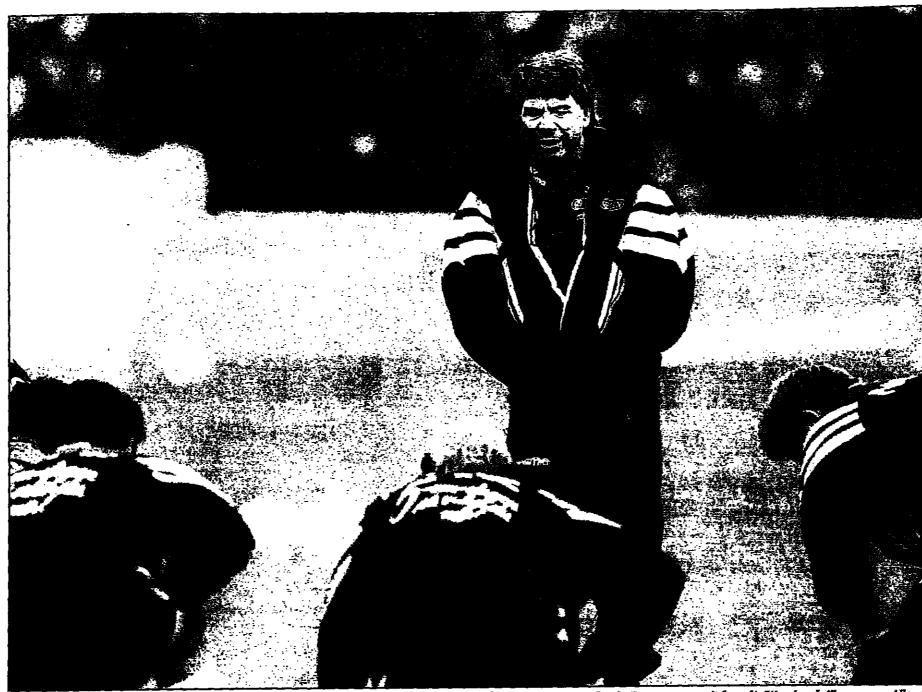
Olsen, who leaves his post after the finals and has been linked with everyone from Celtic to Switzerland. has no qualms about being different. He is confident that work-rate, athleticism and organisation - the basic values which Jack Charlton exploited to raise the Republic of Ireland's profile in international football - can take Norway through to the second phase for the first time.

In the United States four years ago, they finished bottom of the socalled Group of Death, despite gaining as many points as the Irish, Italy and Mexico. They are in a stronglooking section again, with Brazil whom Oisen calls "the best team in the world" despite Norway's stunning 4-2 victory over the holders in a friendly last summer - plus Scotland and the Moroccans.

"Scotland will be something like Ireland," he anticipates, "and Morocco are a very strong African team. We beat Brazil and they were very eager to take revenge. They invited us over there but we couldn't go. It's difficult to visit the other side of the world for a friendly. But I know that Brazil in the World Cup is a very different matter.

"Everything is concentrated on qualifying from the first stage. I can't imagine that Brazil won't get through, so it's between the other three for one place."

When Plan A failed at USA 94 repentant. "I don't think we'll do things very differently from last versity of Sport and Physical Eductime. I believe we did things right, although we're aware that we didn't play well. What we did wasn't good enough, but the heat had something to do with that. We played in about studied data from all over the world the possession way".



Egil Olsen prepares his squad: "Many goals are conceded by losing the ball in midfield. If you don't play it there you won't lose it. It's simple!"

that we were empty. Due to our style and when goals are scored. of play we were penalised very

Even in flaming June, France should be more to their liking. Olsen looks to have a better squad than last time - in Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and Tore Andre Flo they have palpably superior strikers - while critics who argue that such talents require more sophisticated tactics have been disarmed by Norway's stun-

ning qualifying and friendly results. ation when not working with the national squad, also finds vindication in academic research. Renowned for a fondness for statistics, he has

50 degrees in the first match. After in an attempt to analyse how, why

An English scientist called Richard Pollard, who now works in hard. We run and move a lot." America, has been particularly influential. Pollard reputedly collaborated with Wing-Commander Charles Reep, who invented the acronym POMO and was cited as an inspiration by Graham Taylor for his statistically-based endorsement of "route one" football.

Reep is in his nineties now," says Olsen "but he's still bright. I've si Olsen, who lectures at Oslo's Uniken to him on the phone and he has written me 20-page letters."

A combination of their analyses and his own experience has led him to the conclusion that "the penetrative way is more effective than

It is an extraordinary statement which flies in the face of the global game's conventional wisdom. "I haven't seen any [international] team playing like us," he adds proudly, defiantly. "We're special. We're playing a very strict zonal defence. More so than in England where they mark and follow opponents more than we do. They're going in the opposite direction, with more possession and more passes. But the way

we play is exciting. 'i like being called a io team. It means nobody will imitate Now, suffering from rheumatoid us. The long ball is only a small part of my philosophy. But if you don't play the ball through the midfield, you won't lose it there. Many goals are conceded by losing it there. It's

When he starts to eulogise the doyen of direct play, the FA's former head of coaching Charles Hughes, one suspects it might be an elaborate piece of kidology designed to wrong-foot the Scots. But no, this really is the Norwegian way; right down to the old Graham Taylor ploy of using a tall player out wide and aiming diagonal balls at him like some Nordic Ian Ormondroyd.

arthritis and fitted with an artificial hip, he cannot play at all. Before the operation he worked in a college with long corridors. Hence the roller skates, no problem for one who played ice hockey as a child.

The political radicalism stems from a working-class background and his student days in the 1960s. "For some reason, if you're on the left, the press are interested. Though I'm not so active now, I did get involved in the debate over whether we should go into Europe. We won that fight - 51 per cent of Norwegians said no."

He does like a statistic, but the The irony of Olsen's stance is that mental image of Olsen as the he was evidently a skilful player, nerdish boffin poring over Reep's dant talent. supervising training in his Welling- sively sound with the ability to break tons on a cold, rainswept day. "I mustn't get my feet wet because Γm rheumatic. They're effective."

Morocco made in new mould by Michel

ANYONE OUTSIDE north Africa or Scandinavia might think there is only one World Cup match today, but while Brazil versus Scotland is the main event Norway's match with Morocco is arguably the more vital

With Brazil favourites to win Group A, the real contest is for second place and the meeting in Montpellier will reveal immediately whether Morocco have a chance of upsetting the odds.

Norway, unbeaten at international level since January 1997, have had an enviable build-up, with impressive recent victories over Denmark, Mexico and Saudi Arabia.

That run has enabled the coach, Egil Olsen, to name his starting lineup early last night and, with a fully-fit squad, confidence in the camp is high. Olsen's only problem seems to be keeping Norwegian optimism in check. "We're not as good as our resuits suggest," he said. "The results have been better than some of the performances and we know that we are not the best side in the world."

Brazil earned that title four years ago but came unstuck against Norway in Oslo last year, losing 4-2.

Olsen gives his team a "20 per cent chance" of repeating that victory in the final group match but he hopes to have secured second place by then, with wins over Scotland and

The Chelsea forward Tore Andre Flo, who scored twice against Brazil, will lead the Norwegian attack and his strength in the air will pose a formidable threat to Morocco.

The Morocco coach, Henri Michel, had his squad playing "head only" football during training this week but insisted it was not a special preparation for Norway's aerial menace. In fact, in their captain Nourreddine Naybet, Morocco have a gifted centre-back more than capable of competing with the gangling Flo. He has recovered from a twisted ankle and will play, as will Moustafa Hadji, Morocco's midfield fulcrum. Hadji has a broken toe but insisted he will play through the pain "to bring glory to Morocco".

There was little of that on display four years ago when Morocco lost all three first-round games. However, Michel, who led France to the semifinals in 1986, has revolutionised the team, adding what he described as "British-style discipline" to the abun-

The result is a side that is with skill and speed.

Michel well knows that the first match will be vital. "We need a re-A non-conformist down to his sult of some sort," he said, "A win toes, Egil Olsen brings a whole new would be ideal but a draw would keep 🕏 meaning to the idea of the big boot. us in the hunt for second place."

WHO THE PUNDITS PICK

Alan Hansen, Gary Lineker, Barry Davis, Jimmy Hill (all BBC); Andy Gray, Alan Parry, Alan Mullery (all Talk Radio); Martin Samuel (Daily Express); Glenn Moore (The Independent); David Baddiel (comedian); David Ginola.

FRANCE

Jack Charlton; John Motson, Alan Green (both BBC); Kevin Keegan (ITV); Brian Madley (Sunday People).

ARGENTINA Terry Venables; Henry Winter (The Daily Telegraph).

ENGLAND Bob Wilson (ITV); Harry Harris (The Mirror).

THE NETHERLANDS Brian Moore (ITV); Rob King (Daily Star).

Des Lynam (BBC), Richard Littlejohn.

John Inverdale (BBC).

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Nigeria's harmony a real bonus for Ikpeba

WHEN GLENN Hoddle complains about the obstacles that litter his path as England coach, he is probably thinking of the intense media scrutiny of his preparations, and the wrangling he has gone through with the likes of Alex Ferguson and Roy Evans to secure his players for friendly games.

But while clearly no picnic, the trials and tribulations that come with Hoddle's job pale into insignificance when compared with the employment terms of his Nigerian counterpart, Bora Milutinovic.

Denied top quality warm-up matches by sporting sanctions in force against the military regime and the country's suspension from the African Nations' Cup, it was not until 22 April that Milutinovic was finally able to get his key players together for a friendly,

against Germany. Although that resulted in an honourable 1-0 defeat, last week's 4-0 humbling at the hands of Grasshopper Zürich certainly increased the pressure on the experienced Serbian coach, that he is the fourth

The African player of the year is confident the Olympic champions will soar. By Dominique Baldy

of Hoddle's England tenure Brazil. tells you all you need to know about the post's longer term prospects, and the politicking that is an inevitable part of the Nigerian football scene.

But despite these handicaps, and an on-going row between the players and the national federation over the non-payment of their agreed qualification bonuses, hopes remain high back home that the Super Eagles will swoop to the World Cup in France, and fulfil, at the last opportunity, Pelé's oft-quoted prediction that an African nation would be world champions by the turn of

the century. To find the reasons for that optimism, you need to go back to Atlanta two years ago, when the bulk of the current squad won Olympic gold in spectacular fashion, including dramat-

man to hold the job in the time ic victories over Argentina and

"Since Atlanta, a lot of Nigerians think we have already won the World Cup, especially considering that the team that won there forms the basis of our current side," acknowledges the striker Victor Ikpeba, a gold-medallist and current African footballer of the year. "The whole country is very excited and confident.

"In the States we beat Brazil, who had Ronaldo, Roberto Carlos, Bebeto and Juninho in their team, so you cannot blame the people for feeling that way, but the players are not getting carried away. But we believe that we can win, because we are a stronger now than we were in the last finals four years ago."

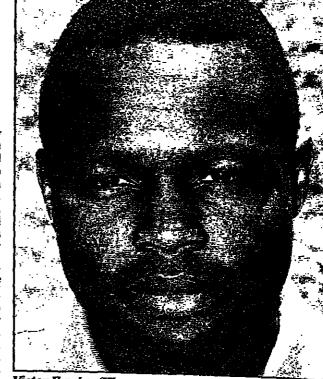
Then, Nigeria were eliminated in the second round by Italy after leading 1-0, and Ikpe-

ba feels the lessons of that day have been fully absorbed. "We are mentally tougher now, and appreciate the need to keep going all the way through. In Atlanta, we were 3-1 down gainst Brazil in the semi-finals, with 15 minutes to play, trailed twice before winning. This tells you a lot about the spirit we now

have in the team." When you add to that newly acquired strength the talents of players such as the Internazionale striker Nwankwo Kanu, back in the squad after career threatening heart surgery, silky playmaker Austin Okocha and Ikpeba himself, it is clear that the optimism is not purely fanciful.

But if the pedigree of the bulk of the Nigerian squad is beyond question, it may be events off the field that will clip the Eagles' wings. The row over bonuses, for one, has hardly done much for dressingroom harmony.

"We didn't need that probem," says Ikpeba. "Money is not the reason we are going to France, but we were promised the bonuses for qualifying,



Victor Ikpeba: 'We are mentally tougher now' Allsport

er than those the European teams have received. It's just typical of Nigeria that the money hasn't been paid, and it would be a big belp if it were resolved before the competition started."

And then there is the small matter of the regular changing of the man at the helm. The previous incumbent, Frenchman

which in any case are far small- Philippe Troussier, was sacked after a row with the federation despite having led the Eagles through their qualifying group.

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"It's a shame that the federation keeps changing the coach, but there is not a lot the players can do about it. At least Bora is well experienced and that makes him a good man to have on our side.

The Tartan Army - famous for drinking dry host towns and cities - appears THE GLOBAL GAME

bling here out in the countryside,"

Vecsey writes. "Our lads do not like

to have drained Scotland of French francs. An estimated £5m worth of French currency has been snapped up in the last few days, promising a bonanza for bar owners across the channel. A spokeswoman for Thomas Cook said Scotland broke all the records when francs were sold commission-free at the weekend. The Herald, Glasgow.

George Vecsey, a veteran sports columnist with the New York Times, reports being quartered in the boonles." Al-

THE WORLD CUP AROUND THE WORLD

that the US team have a special problem ahead of Sunday's match in Paris against Germany. Billeted in a cháteau in the Beaujolais region, they are bat-tling boredom. "The Yanks are grum-

though they are in deepest wine country. US team members are allowed only one beer at dinner by coach Steve Sampson. Other distractions on offer to them: a darts board, late night card games and, says Vecsey, exciting volumes of the 'pages jaune' in every

Bild Zeitung, Germany's leading tabloid remarks on the transformation of Berti Vogts, the national team coach. "In France he wants to achieve as manager what he pulled off as player in 1974 - winning the World Cup In England two years ago, he was the fatherly friend of players, who would even interpose in disputes between Klinsmann and Sammer. They thanked him with their triumph at Wembley. Now the boss is acting tough. He plays one off against the other, even with the help of the media."



Rio just Rio just glad of second chance

Y MIKE ROWBOTTOM

RIO FERDINAND has grown used to being compared to Bobby Moore by now. After all, he is 19.

The West Ham defender, the second youngest member of England's World Cup squad, has already endured years of being told that his assured yet delicate style is reminiscent of the fair-haired legend who used to inhabit the same Upton Park

Ferdinand has the good grace to be embarrassed. Bobby was a legend like Pelé. Players like him are a one-off. I'm only at the beginning of my career and I find it hard even as he has sorted through his difbeing put alongside someone as great as him."

For all that, as Ferdinand has worked his way up through the feared the worst after his misranks at West Ham, something about him has always stood out as being special. It is a quality which was recognised two years ago by Glenn Hoddle's predecessor as England coach, Terry Venables, who invited the 17-year-old along to train with England's Euro 96 squad.

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Two years on, Ferdinand finds himself alongside the established names in a more meaningful way. "It's unbelievable," he said.

Unbelievable it wasn't, but it did seem unlikely just nine months ago when, having been called up for the World Cup qualifier against Moldova, Ferdinand was dropped in the wake of a drink-driving charge. He had attended a party on the day before he was breathalysed. but the alcohol was still in his system and he was over the legal limit. Given the disciplinarian character of the England coach - a characteristic that has been vividly demonstrated ficulties first with Paul Gascoigne and then Teddy Sheringham - Ferdinand judgement. "I thought to myself 'I'm not going to play for England'. I didn't even think about the span of time." The incident is something over which Ferdinand is still very touchy.

Asked if he felt, in retrospect, whether it had been a good thing that his bad habit should have been brought to light and dealt with at an early stage in his career, his composure was clearly ruffled. "What do you mean 'bad habit?" He made it very clear that this had been a one-off mistake which had caused him considerable dispapers although I suppose I should have expected it. It was a big embarrassment - not just for myself but for my family and friends. For my little brother.

"But Glenn reassured me by saying that it wouldn't affect me in the long run if I could deal



On the way at last: The England party board their flight from Heathrow to France yesterday

with it and carry on doing well on the pitch. He said I could come back a stronger person and that it would work in my comfort. "It was a bit of a shock favour, and that's what I feel has when I saw the story in all the happened. Perhaps it was a good thing to learn so early in my career."

That period of self-examination marked a low point in Ferdinand's England ambitions, but he remained uncertain of his place in the World Cup squad until he was actually from Hoddle in La Manga after

told by Hoddle that he was in- he had made the lonely walk to phone to his family and close cluded. When Hoddle failed to the coach's hotel room which all name him in the starting line-28 players had to endure. "I thought I had half a up of three successive warm-up chance," Ferdinand said. "It matches. Ferdinand once again

questioned whether he would was 50-50. There was no beatget to France. "When I wasn't ing around the bush, Glenn just said 'you're in'. chosen for the Belgium game I thought: 'I can't be going "I just had a big smile on my then' but I went on as a substiface as he talked to me. It was tute and was told I'd done rea-

only when I got back into my own room that the emotion hit me and it was 'yesss!"" Well enough to get the nod

He got straight on to the can't ask for more."

friends. One of the first he spoke to was his club colleague Frank Lampard junior, with whom he had been due to go on holiday. Trip cancelled.

Now that Ferdinand is in his own words "champing at the bit. I'm not nervous yet," he added, fingering the diamond in his left ear, "when I get to France, that's when it will all sink in. It's the best feeling in football, you



DIARY

booming, swerving freekicks was already quite formidable and it will not help Scotland's sense of wellbeing that Roberto Carlos will be able to apply his special talents even more effectively today with the new World Cup ball. The manufacturers, Adidas, say that the softer-feel, enhanced grip of the "Tricolore" should enable the Brazilian defender to impart more spin, while its new foam structure will lend even more power to a left foot that can already send a ball hurtling towards goal at 100mph. However the good news for Colin Hendry and his fellow defenders is that the ball will feel softer to head while goalkeepers will be able to get a firmer grip on it.

TELEVISION SET sales in the major European countries appearing at the World Cup have increased sharply in recent months. Sales of new and top-of-therange sets in Germany, France and Italy had all increased sharply as the World Cup approaches, according to Jean Dumas, European market development chief at electronics

EVERY COMPETING nation feels the pressure of satisfying the towering expectations of those watching at home. For England's group rivals. Romania, there is the added burden of knowing

THE THREAT posed by those their Prime Minister has put money on them reaching the semi-finals. Radu Vasile has also promised to hand out bonuses to players for "good results". However. money and the Romanian squad is a touchy subject at the moment. Last week they refused to speak to the media after branding their remarks about player wealth as "hostile."

> JUSTIN CURRIE of the rock group Del Amitri, who penned Scotland's World Cup song, will be £10,000 richer should they beat **Brazil and Roberto Carlos** belp their cause with an own goal. The guitarist has wagered £50 on the 200-1 double with bookmakers William Hill who quote Scotland at 8-1 to win today's opener and Brazil as 11-4 World Cup favourites.

BRIAN MOORE has already decided what his last words tie blows on the World Cup final and the curtain falls on a distinguished 31-year career in television sport. The voice of ITV football will adapt the immortal words of Kenneth Wolstenholme and sign off with: "They think it's all over - and for me it certainly is." On the eve of his last assignment, Moore said: "Why try and beat it? It was the ultimate line for a commentator and everything is definitely Second Division after that."



The images of (from left) Messrs Le Saux, Beckham and Ince light up the white cliffs of Dover for promotional purposes yesterday

BT's line up for the World Cup.





Austria from 19p







sonably well."







South Africa from 38p



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Scholes gives **England** win in France

By Martin Lipton ENGLAND'S WORLD Cup cam-

paign kicked off with a first win on French soil last night courtesy of a goal from Paul Scholes.

The Manchester United man netted the only strike as Glenn Hoddle's side beat the French Second Division team Caen in a behind-closed-doors game within hours of their arrival across the Channel. With television cameras and

photographers banned, the only witnesses to England's win were some 200 local dignitaries who had been invited by the Football Association and the small French club. There was a taste of home

however, as some England fans who had been let into the stadium before the game left behind Union Jack banners on the benches behind one goal.

In a game played in steady rain, Hoddle used around 15 of his squad players. They included the Arsenal goalkeeper David Seaman, who had sparked fears he might miss out on Monday's opener against Tunisia when he left the squad's Buckinghamshire hotel vesterday morning with heavy strapping around his left thigh.

England officials, however, maintained the bandages were purely precautionary to avoid the Highbury man's dead-leg being inflamed by the trip from Heathrow. Hoddle reported no injury problems from the game and the coach added: "It was a very worthwhile exercise for us.

"Some of the players had not played a match for quite a period of time and nobody has played since the game against Belgium in Morocco last Friday With reporters barred from

going anywhere near the stadium, Hoddle, the few let in, and the England entourage, are the only people who will know how well they played.

Italy will be without Alessan-

dro Del Piero when they face Chile in their opening World Cup match tomorrow.

Del Piero is recovering from a pulled adductor muscle and had hoped to be fit for the match in Bordeaux. But yesterday the Juventus striker acknowledged he needed more time and vowed instead to be back for Italy's second Group B match - against Cameroon in Montpellier on 17 June.

"Everything's going smoothly as far as the injury is concerned but it's become clear over the past few days that I won't be ready to face Chile," Del Piero said. "Tli carry on training and hopefully be ready to face Cameroon." Italy now appear certain to start tomorrow's match with the recalled Roberto Baggio and Christian Vieri in attack.

The Dutch defender Frank de Boer has twisted his left ankle in training and may miss the Netherlands' opener against Belgium on Saturday. He missed the 1996 European Championship after injuring his right ankle - but the latest injury appears less serious.

The Arsenal striker Dennis Bergkamp, who has been out of action for six weeks with a strained hamstring, has been training with the Dutch squad this week. He had seemed unlikely to play until the second round - but now the Dutch team doctor has not ruled out a place for him on the substitutes' bench on Saturday.

Nigeria have lost their defender Jero Shakpoke, who, it was revealed yesterday, broke his left collarbone during last Friday's 5-1 friendly defeat in the Netherlands and will miss the tournament. The Olympic champions will ask Fifa, world football's ruling body, for permission to call up a replacement for Shakpoke.

ENGLAND (starting line-up v Caen yes-terday): Searran; Nexille, Adams, South-gate; Anderton, Beckham, Ince, Scholes, Ferdinand; Shearer, Owen.

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The world champions open their campaign today burdened with the task of living up to an illustrious heritage

Echoes of the past surround Brazil

BY GLENN MOORE in Paris

IF RONALDO, Roberto Carlos and Denilson have any doubts about the mantle they will take on at the Stade de France this afternoon, a pre-training visit to the Royal Monceau Hotel, in the shadow of L'Arc de Triomphe, would have underlined their responsibility.

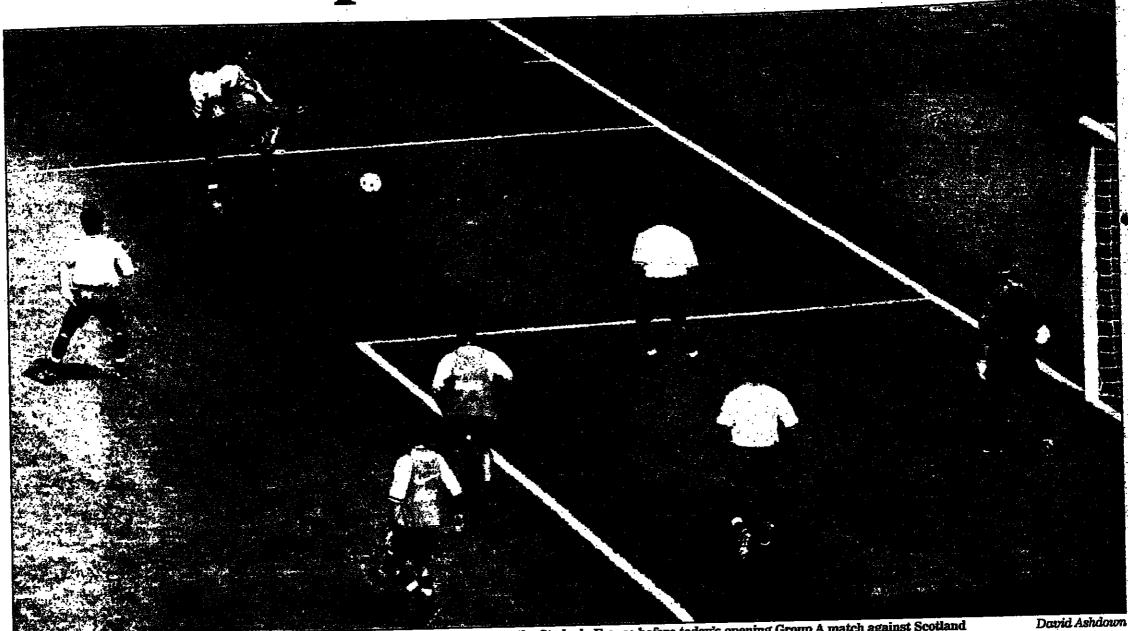
On a podium facing camera crews and journalists from around the globe sat three men of poise and presence. Their bodies were middleaged but their minds were young and their reputations timeless. Between them Pelė, Carlos Alberto Torres and Nilton Santos won five World Cups. Yesterday, along with the late Garrincha, they made up a quartet of Brazilians selected in a team of

They were gathered at the behest of Mastercard, one of those rare occasions when sponsorship enhances a World Cup. The team, chosen by journalists worldwide, brooked little argument. Brazil's place in the pantheon of football heroes was further illustrated when thoughts inevitably turned towards a second XI to play the first. The names of Didi, Rivelino, Jairzinho, Gerson, Zico, Junior and Socrates, who was also present,

were quickly offered. It is a formidable heritage and, a few months ago, the present selection seemed worthy heirs. The champions of 1994 had added the youthful skills of Ronaldo and partners to the organisation and fiair of Dunga, Aldair and Romario. As they toured the world for Nike, beating all-comers from Rio to Riyadh, they seemed invincible. Victory next month, and a footballing variant on the tradition of a yellow jersey champion in Paris in July, seemed inevitable.

Since beating Germany in March, however, doubts have emerged. Their form has been poor, notably when losing in the Maracana to Argentina; they have suffered injury problems, including the loss of Romario and Marcio Santos; and there has been internal dissension.

Mario Zagalio, the coach, has posed on him as an "assistant". Zico and Romario do not get on and Romario, who disputed the extent of his muscle injury, did not leave happily. ites are now just favourites. Zagallo then called up Emerson, a



Brazil's Bebeto (in orange bib) is tackled during his country's final training session at the Stade de France before today's opening Group A match against Scotland

defensive player, leaving him dependent on either Bebeto, now 34 and short of match practice, or the extremely volatile Edmundo as Ronaldo's partner. Edmundo was had Zico, a great player but a man subsequently reported rubbishing of little coaching experience, im- Bebeto. Add in worries about the fitness of Dunga, the form of Taffarel and Zagallo's alleged negativity and remoteness, and everybody's favour-Yesterday Pelé and Nilton Santos,

an inspirational left-back in Brazil's 1958 and 1962 successes, both said that they hoped Brazil would win but declined to follow Carlos Alberto, the captain in 1970, in predicting it. Pelé said it was the most even finals he had known while Alfredo Di Stefano, the other member of the Mastercard XI to attend, favoured France but also named Argentina, Brazil, Germany, Spain and England.

support. "There is less creativity, less improvisation, in this Brazilian team and football generally. So I think it will be a physical World Cup. Brazil have worked hard on this but there have already been injuries." Now a coach of young players at his own school near Rio de Janeiro, he added: "There have not been any significant developments in the game since the 1974 Dutch side."

made since the Argentina defeat. Romaine [Brazil's HQ] the atmos-While the nature of the Brazilian media prevents the team drawing in the wagons as tightly as England, a familiar defensiveness has appeared, suggesting the most dangerous doubts, internal ones, are developing. "The Brazilian press are starting to undermine our work." said Roberto Carlos. "The world talks about fights which never happened.

phere remains fine. The game with Scotland is of paramount importance. It can erase all the doubts about us being successful. I sense that, if we win, it will act as a trigger to put us on the right track."

It is not always easy being favourites. The slick passing, dribbling and interplay that lifts Brazil's game on to a higher plane works only when a team is happy about itself.

But the balance must be struck - a cocky team can be sloppy and lazy.

The serious mood of this Brazilian team was evident as they trained at the Stade de France yesterday. A few miles away the heroes of the past were reliving their gilded memories, today their successors must cope with the burden of adding to them. MASTERCARD WORLD XI: Yashin (USSR); Carlos Al-berto Torres (Brazil), Bechanbauer (Nest Germany).

QUOTES OF THE DAY

"Every player at some stage of their career has been described as having weaknesses - and I aim to find Ronaldo's" Colin Hendry, Scotland captain "It's been a shock. None of the team could believe it. Some have suggested we should pull out, but I can't see the point of that. Abacha would want us to do well" Daniel Amokachi. Nigeria forward, on the death of the country's leader, General Sani Abacha

"I fear that stadiums might be filled with people who will not have the passion you would expect. I don't think people realise that this is an event of the greatest significance worldwide and that it's taking place in France" Aime Jacquet, French coach

Captain Braveheart proud to be a fan on and off the pitch

EVERY PICTURE tells a story. Scotland's most famous celebrity supporter once sang, and it is certainly true of Colin Hendry's holiday snapshots from the World Cup summer of

There he is, a fair-skinned magnet to the Spanish sunshine, with a sombrero covering his distinctive blond locks. a stuffed donkey under his arm and a tartan scarf that revealed the real purpose of his visit.

Many a contemporary would be embarrassed to admit having been a starry-eyed kid who sang, chanted and worshipped the ground his predecessors played on, but then Hendry has always been his own man.

"I was a Scotland fan then, I'm a fan now who happens to play for the team and I'll be a fan long after I've finished," the 32-year-old Highlander asserts with a firmness that brooks no argument and typifies both the person and the player

Hendry is both the captain and the most striking symbol of a Scottish team who, despite the lack of obvious "stars", have reached the finals of successive major tournaments under Craig Brown. He is a powerful and passionate man, "a bit of a Braveheart figure" according to the manager, who believes he would throw himself in front of a 10-ton truck if it meant protecting Scotland's

There was a time when Hendry's game arguably contained too much Bannockburn bravado for Blackburn's good. He was the warrior centre-back who took it as a personal affront if his side fell behind and would go marauding upfield to rectify the situa-

Hendry still tackles with a claymore's incisiveness and lends his aerial ability at attacking set-pieces. But he also shows a greater sense of responsibility and awareness of his true value to both club and country. When Brown lost the unlucky Gary McAllister, he was the obvious candidate to lead the Scots in France, even though Tim Sherwood wears

In 1982, Colin Hendry was in Torremolinos on tour with the Tartan Army. Today, he leads the Scots against Brazil. By Phil Shaw

"It's something I revel in rather than being overawed by," Hendry explains. "Tve always done a lot of shouting on the park, but you also need authority in the way you play to do the job. I think central defenders are ideally qualified. After all, we pit ourselves against the so-called stars of the opposing team - the strikers."

Talking of which, he will be up against the most expensive and effective in the world today when Scotland take on Brazil. If he had a fiver for everyone who has asked him about facing Ronaldo he would be Jack Walker, but Hendry insists that the Premiership has prepared

"In the last month of the season alone I played against Shearer, Dublin and Huckerby, Vialli, Flo and Hughes, Has-

World Cup squads. And anyway, Ronaldo's only human."

They may prove to be famous last words, yet Hendry has no time for negative thoughts. "Tm up for it," he says. "I'm in there with the jersey, in my corner with the boxing gloves on. If there's ever a good time to play Brazil, it's in the opening game. Having said that, every Scotland player will have to perform to his full potential and give a bit

extra on top." Like any self-respecting Tartan Army veteran, he is steeped in the competition's lore. The chronology of the 1974 finals, when Billy Bremner came within a ginger hair's breadth of beating Brazil and putting Scotland in the second round, is burned into his mind. Images of 1978 - Peru and Iran, Archie Gemmill and Ally MacLeod -

"Me and my mum and dad stayed near Torremolinos. I remember meeting Alex McLeish [Scotland's centrehalf] before the New Zealand match, and him saying: Hello. wee man.' I was 15 and already quite tall, but to him I was

still 'a wee boy fae Keith'."

Hendry's birthplace, a "hard-working town" where many people are employed on the oil rigs or in the whisky industry, has been important in shaping his affable, uncomplicated personality. He grew up following his local Highland League club and goes home to see his parents whenever possible. With a chuckle that is affectionate rather than patronising, he tells me many in Keith expected him to spend a few weeks there before flying out to France.

gan, might have been "made in Scotland from girders", there were some at his first club, Dundee, who thought him a malingerer. Even those who knew of his problems with injury and illness never saw him as a fu-

ture international. "I remember about five us [players] sitting round at our digs talking about what might happen to us. The consensus was that one lad had a great chance of playing for Scotland, which he never did, and another could well reach the top, which he hasn't. I never got mentioned. I just faded into the background."

He did win a B cap in 1990, three years after he first joined Blackburn, but admits he may have been over-eager. It took a 5-0 rout in Portugal and the falling out with Richard Gough

by then had become Kenny Dalglish's first major buy for Blackburn after a sabbatical at Manchester City.

When Brown took over, he recognised that Hendry's ability, properly channelled, could be an asset. He now has 32 caps and forms, with Colin Calderwood and Tom Boyd, the unit largely responsible for Scotland's fine record in competitive fixtures.

They have conceded only eight goals in 24 games, and no one has scored more than twice against them in Brown's four and a half years. Much as it hurt Hendry's patriotic pride that England should have been one of the few to take two goals off them - at Wembley during Euro 96 - he is philosophical about the endless action replays of Paul Gascoigne

beating him before scoring. "Rod Stewart told me he'd asked him about that goal and that Gazza reckoned he got a helping hand from above because I lost my footing. But I've never made any excuse about slipping and it's never worried me because it was a great occasion to be involved in and we

played well." Besides, there have been plenty of brighter moments in the dark blue. Hendry nominates a 0-0 draw in sub-zero temperatures in Moscow as especially gratifying. Beating Sweden after surviving "a pummelling" also rates highly, along with subduing Dennis Bergkamp and Patrick Kluivert

against the Dutch at Villa Park Such results, allied to the recent draw with Colombia, give Hendry hope against Brazil where many see none. The role of underdogs suits the Scottish psyche, and he is keen to claim it against Norway and Morocco, too, on the basis that both are above them in Fifa's

world rankings.

The history of what Hendry calls "the greatest tournament" has Scotland typecast as gallant failures, a tag he despises. "It's terrible," he says. "So it would mean everything to me to be in the team that finally reached the second round. And to be Reuters captain... I'd be so proud."



the armband at Ewood Park. Colin Hendry: T'm in there with the jersey, in my corner with the boxing gloves on'

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Scotland must not waste energy

ALL CRAIG Brown's meticulous preparations are finally over and he will be hoping his charges are ready for what will be their first and probably toughest test of the tournament Sadily for Scotland, almost everything about the opening game will suit their opponents, Brazil. The Scottish style is for both forwards to harry and hassie the opposition's defenders, nipping at their heels and trying to unsettle them. This will not work against the world champions because their defenders are not comfortable on the ball as most playmaking midfielders from other counries and will happily pass it around the scampering Scottish forwards, drawing the sting out of their game. If Brown changes the tactics and asks his forwards merely to give token resistance, it will result in most of the game being played in the 40 yards in front of Jim Leighton's

goal. Against most international

teams this is often a fairly good plan.

With plenty of bodies behind the ball



that easily shaken. They are as and strong committed defending they can provide a formidable barrier. Especially with these Scottish defenders who know and understand each other so well. However, with 90 minutes of sustained pressure, it is difficult to imagine the Brazilians failing to break through

at some point Scotland's defenders face the added problem of having to curb their natural enthusiasm, because of uncertainty over the implementation of the new rules. They cannot

the ball because it may be construed as a tackle from behind and result in a red card. In the first game, more than any other, the referee will be expected to put down some sort of marker that will be used for the rest of the tournament. Hendry, Calderwood and Boyd will find themselves as guinea pigs for an experiment that will interest hundreds of millions of people.

On the positive side, all three at least sounded as though they were quite at ease with the impending trial by television, Boyd said: "There is no pressure, really, everyone expects us to lose, so we will give it our best shot. If we get anything, it's a bonus."

The whole build-up by the Scottish management team has tried to promote this fairly relaxed, even lowkey, attitude shown by the players. Brown has known all along that there is no need to motivate his players for the opener. Keeping them as calm and confident as possible, not

take the chance of trying to "nick" allowing them to be overcome by the of "Ronaldo's markers today. A Britain, and indeed Europe, that has enormity of the occasion, has been Brazilian journalist asked, in ad-

the more pressing consideration. In the daily press conferences over here in Saint Rémy, the manager has been at pains to underline the high levels of experience within the squad, "Lambert has won a Champions' League medal, Collins played in a semi-final of the same tournament this season with Monaco, Colin Hendry has won an English Premiership title with Blackburn, eight of the squad play with the current Scottish champions, Celtic. The Old Firm contingent always play their home games in front of over 50,000 fans, only Manchester United

in England can boast that." The barrage of facts and figures is aimed at least as much at his own players and the attendant bordes of reporters. He knows that if his team were to go out against the Brazilians with an inferiority complex it could be a recipe for disaster.

Captain Colin Hendry was distinctly relaxed about his role as "one mirable English: "At night, do you dream about Ronaldo?"

"I'm a happily married man, with three children, I don't dream about other men," was the typically dry Scottish reply. The Brazilian did not fully grasp the joke, expecting veneration, not flippancy, when Ronaldo's name was mentioned. The same journalist was equally mystified at Brown's description of Denilson as "a very good player, nearly as good as John Collins".

In a more serious moment, Hendry claimed: "I am no more anxious than normal about this partieular game, as I play against some of the world's best strikers in the English Premiership every week."

The Scots have got the tone just about right, because the build-up has been right. There has been hard work but as little pressure as possible heaped on the players. The games in the United States took the players out of their environment in

been building up to fever pitch since the end of the domestic seasons. It also took them away from the worst excesses of the tabloid media. The headquarters the squad has been at for the past week in

Saint Rémy is quiet and secluded, to the point that it is probably difficult for them to believe the World Cup is almost upon them. So Scotland will arrive at Saint Denis today confident in their ability but certainly not cocky. Relaxed but certainly not lackadaisical, excited but

not over anxious. The most likely outcome however, is a 2-0 win for the Brazilians, mainly because it would actually suit both teams quite well. A couple of goals would be enough cushion for the holders. There is little point in tearing into the Scots beyond this, as they expect another six games over the next 33 days. Tiredness and injuries can cost you the World Cup. just witness the Germans' usual rou-

tine progression from the group

stage with the bare minimum of fuss and physical exertion.

A 2-0 defeat is not too bad for Scotland, either. Realistically, Brown will not be expecting any points from this fixture. Pragmatic almost to a fault, he will realise that, although more people will watch this match than any other in Scotland's history, it is actually the least important of their three games in the group.

Desperate to avoid an embarrassing scoreline, Brown will be just as keen to ensure his players do not waste all their energy vainly chasing shadows in this one outing. A narrow defeat and a courageous but professional display will allow him to concentrate on Norway and Morocco, two teams who can be beaten given a fair wind of fortune. A win against Brazil, however, would need a hurricane - and even a 0-0 draw would necessitate a force nine. I will be up in the press box praying for a storming Scottish performance

THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO FRANCE '98

WORLD CUP OPENING MATCHES Germany 1 Bolivia 0 11 Jul 1966 London

17 Jun 1994 Chicago A very dull match settled by a strike mid-way through the second half from Klinsmann. 8 Jun 1990 Milan Argentina 0 Cameroon 1

Omam-Biylk scored one and the Africans lost two men in their shock opening triumph.

31 Maiy 1986 Mexico City Bulgaria 1 Italy 1 Akobelli gave the holders the lead but the game was full of missed chances. Sirakov equalised with five minutes left. 13 Jun 1982 Barcelona Belgium 1 Argentina 0

The first goal in an opening match for 20 years went to Vandenbergh and Belgium. 1 Jun 1978 Buenos Arles Poland 0 W Germany 0 A terrible pitch and two sides who had eclipsed their former glories. The fourth goalless opening game.

13 Jun 1974 Frankfurt Brazil O Yugoslavia O Zagalio had put together a physical side with the demise of Pelé. The consequence was a scoreless opener.

31 May 1970 Mexico City Mexico 0 USSR 0 Altitude and heated tackles took their toil on a drab

England 0 Uruguay 0 A defensive South American side kept England at bay. 30 May 1962 Viña del Mar Brazil 2 Mexico 0 The holders did not repeat their domination of this fix-ture from 1950 but they went on to retain the trophy. 8 Jun 1958 Melmö W Germany 3 Argentina 1 Argentina shocked the holders with an early goal but the Germans recovered and went on to the semi-finals. 16 Jun 1954 Berne Uruguay 2 Czechoslovakia 0

It took two late goals for the 1950 champions, Uruguay, to finish off the resolute Czechs. 24 Jun 1950 Rio de Janeiro Brazil 4 Mexico 0 Brazil hir the net four times and the woodwork a further five times in a bombardment of the Mexican goal. 4 Jun 1938 Paris Switzerland 1 Germany 1 Germany were ahead through Gauchel in the first half. Switzerland equalised, and won the replay. 27 May 1934 Rome Italy 7 USA 1 27 May 1934 Rome

Mussollni watched rout, including a Schiavio hat trick. 13 July 1930 Montevideo France 4 Mexico 1 Lucien Laurent scored the first ever World Cup goal.

Brazil v Scotland

ROBERTO RIVALDO CALDERWOOD JACKSON TAFFAREL B MCKINLAY

WEATHER: Overcast in the morning and a chance of rain later. Temperature: 16C.

REFEREE: I M GARCIA ARANDA (SPAIN) TW. LIVE: BBC 3.30. EUROSPORT: HIGHLIGHTS 10.0

STATISTICS OF THE DAY OThe number of times that Scotland have progressed beyond the first round of the

World Cup 1 The number of games Morocco have won in World Cup finals

The number of World Cups Brazil have won 1 4 The number of matches Norway have gone with-

out defeat before today

THE HUMBER OF STORE	
16Cup finals (out of 16)	:
that Brazil have participated in	
39The age of Jim Leighton, Scotland's goalkeeper	•
Scotland's goalkeeper	ł
and the oldest man in the	196
World Cup	ı
The number of goals	-
77The number of goals that Pelé scored for	1 135

BRAZIL V SCOTLAND

C H L 5 1

	SCOT RE	LAN COR	
1974, Recor	1978, 198. d: P20 W4	Z, 1986. DG L10	(1954, 1958, 1990) F23 A35
-	Austria Uruguay	L 0-1 L 0 <u>-7</u>	
1958	Yugoslavia Paraguay	D 1-1 L 2-3	Murray Mudie Collins
1	France	L 1-2	Baird
1974	Zatre	W.2-0	Lorimer Jordan
	Brazil Yugoslavia	D 0-0 D 1-1	Jordan
1978		L 1-3 D 1-1	Jordan Own goal
		W 3-2	Gemmili 2 - Dalglish
1982	N Zealand		Wark 2 Daiglish Robertson Archibald
	Brazil USSR	D 2-2	Narey Jordan Soumess
1986	Denmark W German	yL 1-2	Strachan

30 Costa Rica L 0-1

Brazil

TEAM OF THE DAY ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP OVERSEAS XI

Henning Berg (Man Utd and Norway) Franck Leboeuf (Chelsea and France) Lucas Radebe (Leeds and South Africa) Celestine Babayaro (Chelsea and Nigeria) Roberto Di Masseo (Chelsea and Italy) Robbie Earle (Mimbledon and Jamaica) Oyvind Leonhardsen (Liverpool and Nor-

way) Darryl Powell (Derby and Jamaka)

Substitutes: Kasey Keller (Leicester and USA) Slaven Billic (Everton and Croatia) Jacob Laursen (Derby and Denmark Marcus Gayle (Mimbledon and Jama

NORWAY V MOROCCO

CORRECT SCORE

Norway 3-0

49 1-2 49 1-2 2-5

52 11-5 52 94 11-4

61 61 61 11-2 61

CHLST

11-2 5-1 6-1 5-1 6-1

5-1 11-2 5-1 5-1 6-1

61 61 61 61 61

61 11-2 11-2 11-2 13-2

15-2 8-1 7-1 8-1 8-1

81 91 81 91 81

17-2 9-1 9-1 10-1 8-1

11-1 12-1 9-1 11-1 11-1

18-1 29-1 18-1 20-1 16-1

18-1 20-1 22-1 20-1 16-1

25-1 25-1 28-1 22-1 25-1

33-1 33-1 46-1 25-1 33-1

33-1 48-1 33-1 40-1 33-1

48-1 46-1 46-1 46-1 33-1

66-1 90-1198-1 90-1 66-1

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41 41 41 32 41

7-1 15-2 10-1 .15-2 7-1

8-1 15-2 10-1 10-1 9-1

10-1 10-1 12-1 10-1 10-1

12-1 8-1 8-1 12-1 14-1

10-1 8-1 14-1 14-1 17-1

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ormany 4-2 59-1 50-1 50-1 50-1 40-1

Monazy 5-0 50-1 40-1 66-1 40-1 33-1

FIRST GOALSCORER

Designer (Nor) 4-1 5-1 9-2 5-1 4-1

Oceani (Abr) 9-1 9-1 12-1 10-1 10-1

etrakandista (Nor.) 11-1 8-1 8-1 14-1 12-1

Solbaldes (Pior) 12-1 10-1 12-1 18-1 10-1

Subsection 25-1 12-1 25-1 22-1 28-1

C Coral, H. William Hill, L. Laybonies, S. Szanler, T'Entr

stad (Nor) 11-2 11-2 5-1 11-2 11-2

16-1 18-1 25-1 18-1 18-1

BRAZIL TEAM NEWS BRAZIL: Full-back Aldair

will play today, despite re- 1 Jim Leighton porting sore leg muscles and not training with his team yesterday morning. Brazil's coach, Mario Za-gallo, said Aldair is now 5 Cesar Sampaio ...Yokohama Flugeis 6 Roberto Carlos.....Real Madrid 100 per cent", but should there be any late change, Zagallo has Goncaives

ready to deputise. Ronaldo and Bebeto will start up front in an otherwise fully fit side. 11 Emerson Ferreira...Bayer Leverkusen SCOTLAND: Celtic's Dar-

12 Carlos Germano ..Vasco da Gama ren Jackson has been se-..São Paulo lected by Craig Brown to start in preference to Gordon Durie. Jackson, who spent much of the domestic season recovering

from brain surgery, has impressed Brown hugely in training and is likely to play behind a lone striker. Kevin Gailacher. Christian Dailly will play as part of a fiveman midfield in a likely

SCOTLAND

2 Jackie McNamaraCeltic
3 Tommy BoydCeltic
4 Colin CalderwoodTottenham
5 Colin HendryBlackburn Rovers
6 Tosh McKinlayCeltic
7 Kevin GallacherBlackburn Rovers
8 Craig BurleyCeltic
9 Gordon DurleRangers
10 Darren JacksonCeltic
11 John CollinsMonaco
12 Neil SullivanWimbledon
13 Simon DonnellyCeltic

14 Paul Lambert .. 15 Scott Gemmill...Nottingham Forest

16 David Weir 17 Billy McKinlay .. Blackburn Rovers 18 Matt ElliottLeicester City 19 Derek WhyteAberdeen 20 Scott Booth ..Borussia Dortmund 21 Jonathan GouldCeltic 22 Christian DaillyDerby County

Coach: Craig Brown

Morocco v Norway

3-5-1-1 line-up.

BENZEKRI HADJI

WEATHER: Chance of rain early in the day, should clear by evening. Temperature: 18C.

EL KHALEJ

REFEREE: P UN-PRASERT (THAILAND) TV: LIVE: IIV.7.30, EUROSPORT. 7.30,

MOROCCO

22 Dida ..

Coach: Mario Zagalio

1 Abdelkader El BraziFAR Rabat 2 Abdeilah SaberSporting Lisbon 3 Abdelkrim & HadrlouiBenfica 4 Youssef Rossi.....Stade Rennes

SABER

5 Smahi TrikiLausanne 6 Noureddine NaybetLa Coruña Moustafa HadijiLa CoruñaCompostela 8 Said Chiba

9 Abdeljili Hadda..........Club Africain 10 Abderrahim Quakili,.1860 Munich 11 Ali El KhattabiHeerenveen 12 Driss BenzekriRS Settat 13 Rachid NekrouzBari 14 Salaheddine BassirLa Coruña

15 Lahcen Abrami...Wydad Casablanca

16 Rachid AzzouziCologne

17 Gharfb Amzine......Mulhouse 18 Youssel Chippo 19 Jamai SeliamiRaja Casabianca 20 Tahare El Khalej 21 Rachid Rokki SCMM Mohammedia 22 Mustapha Chaditi .. Raja Casablanca Richard Wetherell

TEAM NEWS

MOROCCO: Captain and sweeper Nourreddine Navbet has recovered from a twisted ankle and will play, as will midfielder Moustafa

NORWAY: Coach Egil Olsen has a fully fit squad and is expected to stick to his 4-5-1 formation with Chelsea's Tore Andre Flo as Ione striker.

NORWAY

SOLSKIAER

1 Frode GrodasTottenham Hotspur	l
2 Gunnar HalleLeeds Utd	l
3 Ronny JohnsenManchester Urd	l
4 Henning BergManchester Utd	l
5 Stig Inge BjornebyeLiverpool	Į
6 State SolbakkenAalborg	ľ
7 Erik MyklandPanathinalkos	1
8 Oyvind Leonhardsen,Liverpool	1
9 Tore Andre FloChelsea	ı
10 Kjeril RekdalHertha Berlin	ı
11 Jahn Ivar JakobsenRosenborg	1
12 Thomas MyhreEverton	1
13 Espen BaardsenTottenham	l
14 Vegard HeggernRosenborg	ŀ
15 Dan EggenCelta Vigo	l
16 Jostein RoStomsgodset	ł
17 Havard FloWerder Bremen	ł
18 Egil OstenstadSouthampton	l
19 Erik HoftunRosenborg	
20 Ole Gunnar Solskjær Man Utd	ĺ
21 Vidar RisethLinz ASK	Į.

Group A

(St Denis, 16.30BST) Wed 10 June Brazil v Scotland (Montpellier, 20.00) Wed 10 June Morocco v Norway (Bordeaux, 16.30) Tue 16 June Scotland v Norway (Nantes, 20.00) Tue 16 June Brazil v Morocco (St Etienne, 20.00) Tue 23 June Scotland v Morocco Tue 23 June Brazil v Norway (Marseilles, 20.00)

Group B

(Bordeaux, 16.30) Thu 11 June Italy v Chile Thu 11 June Cameroon v Austria (Toulouse, 20.00) (St Etienne, 16,30) Wed 17 June Chile v Austria (Montpellier, 20.00) Wed 17 June Italy v Cameroon (St Denis, 15.00) Tue 23 June Italy v Austria (Nantes, 15.00) Tue 23 June Chile v Cameroon

Group C (Lens, 16.30) Fri 12 June Saudi Arabia v Denmark (Marsellles, 20.00) Fri 12 June France v South Africa (Toulouse, 16.30) Thu 18 June South Africa v Denmark (St Denis, 20.00) Thu 18 June France v Saudi Arabia (Lyons, 15.00) Wed 24 June France v Denmark

Wed 24 June South Africa v Saudi Arabia (Bordeaux, 15.00)

Group D

Fri 12 June Paraguay v Bulgaria (Montpellier, 13.30) Sat 13 June Spain v Nigeria (Nantes, 13.30) Fri 19 June Nigeria v Bulgaria (Paris, 16.30) (St Etienne, 20.00) Fri 19 June Spain v Paraguay Wed 24 June Spain v Bulgaria (Lens, 20.00) (Toulouse 20.00) Wed 24 June Nigeria v Paraguay

Group E

(Lyons, 16.30) Sat 13 June South Korea v Mexico (St Denis, 20.00) Sat 13 June Netherlands v Belgium Sat 20 June Belgium v Mexico (Bordeaux, 16.30) (Marseilles, 20.00) Sat 20 June Netherlands v S Korea (St Etienne, 15.00) Thu 25 June Netherlands v Mexico (Paris, 15.00) Thu 25 June Belgium v South Korea

Group F

(St Etienne, 16.30) Sun 14 June Yugoslavla v Iran (Paris, 20.00) Mon 15 June Germany v USA Sun 21 June Germany v Yugoslavia (Lens, 13.30) (Lyons, 20.00) Sun 21 June USA v Iran Thu 25 June Germany v Iran (Montpellier, 20.00) Thu 25 June USA v Yugoslavia (Nantes, 20.00)

Group G

(Marseilles, 13.30) Mon 15 June England v Tunisia Mon 15 June Romania v Colombia (Lyons, 16.30) (Montpellier, 16.30) Mon 22 June Colombia v Tunisia (Toulouse, 20.00) Mon 22 June Romania v England (5t Denis, 20.00) Fri 26 June Romania v Tunisia Fri 26 June Colombia v England

Group H

(Toulouse, 13.30) Sun 14 June Argentina v Japan (Lens, 20.00) Sun 14 June Jamaica v Croatia Sat 20 June Japan v Croatia (Nantes, 13.30) (Paris, 16.30) Sun 21 June Argentina v Jamaica (Bordeaux, 15.00) Fri 26 June Argentina v Croatia (Lyon, 15.00) Fri 26 June Japan v Jamaica

Second round Sat 27 June Winner B v Runner-up A

(Marseilles, 15.30) Sat 27 June Winner A v Runner-up B Sun 28 June Winner C v Runner-up D (St Denis, 20.00) Sun 28 June Winner D v Runner-up C (Montpellier, 15.30) Mon 29 June Winner F v Runner-up E Mon 29 June Winner E v Runner-up F (Toulouse, 20.00) Tue 30 June Winner G v Runner-up H (Bordeaux, 15.30) (St Etienne, 20.00) Tue 30 June Winner H v Runner-up G

Quarter-finals

Fri 3 July Marselles winner v Lens winner (St Denis, 15.30) (Nantes, 20.00) Fri 3 July Paris v St Denis winner Sat 4 July Toulouse winner v St Etienne winner (Marseilles, 15.30) Sat 4 July Montpellier winner v Bordeaux winner (Lyons, 20.00)

Semi-finals

Tue 7 July Nantes winner v Marseilles winner (Marseilles, 20.00) Wed 8 July Parls St Denis winner v Lyons winner (St Denis, 20.00)

Third place play-off Saturday 11 July

(Paris, 20.00)

FINAL

(St Denis, 20,00)

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ļ	Draw	3-1	5-2	5-2	13-5	13-5
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1	1-1				11-2	
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ł	04	7-1	6-1	6-1	6-1	6-1
ı	Brazel 3-0	15-2	15-2	8-1	15-2	15-2
- 1	Brazil 2-1	8-1	9-1	7 -1	9-1	9-1
	Grand, 3-1, .				10-1	
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FIRST	GO/	LLS	co	RE	
Player	_ C	H	<u>L</u>	_ 5	
Poweldo (BG)	5-2	11-4	114	5-2	5-2
Edmando (Crti)	114	41	6-1	11-2	<u>5-1</u>
Bebisto (Brs)	6-1	9-2	11-2	5-1	6-1
Rhaddo (Bra)	9-1	8-1	7-1	15-2	8-1
Gallacher (Sco)	10-1	10-1	10-1	g1	B-1
Desilson (Bra)	9-1	18-1	9-1	10-1	11-1
Durie (Sto)	12-1	12-1	12-1	10-1	12-1
Booth (Sco)	12-1	12-1	141	12-1	14-1
Goodel (St.)	9-1	14-1	12-1	10-1	9-1
Jackson (Sco)	. 14-1	141	12-1	12-1	141
Leonardo (Bra)	141	12-1	10-1	141	141
R Carles (Bris)	16-1	20-1	16-1	16-1	14-1
Corr Sample		_	25-1	20-1	18-1

25-1 14-1 33-1 28-1 25-1

al of Romario, Brazil go into this tournament with a stronger squad than the one that won in USA 94. Ronaldo has confirmed

L 0-1

WORLD CUP BETTING

WORLD CUP favourites Brazil

look nailed on to beat Scotland

(maybe 3-1) in the opening

Despite the late withdraw-

game of France 98 today.

both in Serie A and in the Uefa Cup in Europe this season that he had already blossomed into

the striker defenders fear most on the planet. He has to be a fair bet to score the first goal. With the awesome pace and skill of Denilson on the left and the creative influence of Rivaldo, Scotland are in for a

rough ride. In tremendous form on the run up to the competition. Norway should have little difficulty in dismissing Moroc-

co (perhaps 3-0) tonight. Strikers Tore Andre Flo, Solskjaer and Ostenstad need no introduction, nor does Leon-

Morocco proved more stubborn opponents than they ought in a recent friendly with England but this Norwegian side have frankly got rather more going for them in the penetration department than the Hodd squad.

Chelsea striker Flo looks a fair bet to score the opening

ian Davies

SPREAD BETTING

THE opening game of the World Cup is traditionally a tight affair so, with Scotland's fine defensive record and their converse lack of scoring power. any wager on this game will depend on how you rate Brazil's scoring power. While Ronaldo frightens defenders with his pace and strength, Scotland conceded only three goals in qualifying, so a sell of the total Ogoals at 2.6 with City Index has little danger attached to it.

Norway, with Ostenstad.

Tore Andre Flo and Solkslaer.

have certainly shed their so-

porific image of four years ago.

They scored six against Saudi Arabia Just days after England were held goalless and Morocco have an impressive recent record, so a buy with Sporting Index of total goals at 2.4-2.7 appeals.

The quotes on the bookings for both games look high at above 60 (10 points for a booking and 25 for a sending off). While waiting a few games to see how the Fifa directive on tackling is carried out in practice before investing is an option the downside to this particular bet is likely to be slim - the European Cup final

showed how a non-dirty game can rattle up the points.

Another possible avenue is banking on the referee being preoccupied with the dreaded setting a standard for the rest to follow" is with City's time of first booking this afternoon being 21-24 minutes.

The markets will be constantly updated, although with the Brazil-Scotland game being shown on BBC1 this will mean some nifty linger work - either dialling phone numbers or calling up the pages on teletext on other channels.

Hadji despite a broken toe.

Sunday 12 July

(Lens, 20.00)

(Parls, 20.00)

(Lens, 15.30)

WOODWARD'S VIDEO NASTY P24 • RIO IN MOORE MOULD P28

Scots seek a surprise opening

BY PHIL SHAW in Paris



CRAIG BROWN was in jocular, almost bullish mood last night as Scotland steeled themselves to launch the greatest show on earth against the might of Brazil in the Stade de France today. Yes, he admitted. Scotland have booked a

flight home at the end of the first round, beyond which they have never progressed in the World Cup or any championship. Then came the punch line. Beaming defiantly, Brown said that they have also reserved flights for the day after both the semi-finals

Even the wildest dreamers among the Tartan Army do not expect to be back at St Denis on 12 July. After all, Scotland have won only four games in six finals. But the fact that they have made contingency plans for every outcome is testimony to the meticulous organisation with which they hope to frustrate the holders.

A few hundred feet from where Brown spoke, the Brazilians were going through their paces, with only a few hundred photographers occupying the vast arena that will throb with 80,000 voices today. The repertoire was awesome: overhead kicks; viciously swerving free-kicks; audacious flicks and dummies.

Yet the Scotland manager is confident that his team will neither be overawed nor be outwitted tactically. After appearing to settle on his starting line-up on the mini-tour of the United States, Brown is now ready to surprise the world champions by throwing Darren Jackson into the fray at the expense of

Jackson, whose career was threatened by brain surgery in August, failed to command a regular place during Celtic's championship season. The lack of activity may now work in his favour. Brown described him as "electric" in trainlone striker. Kevin Gallacher, to prevent Brazil building from the back.

Although this would mean a variation on his tried and trusted 3-5-2 formation, Scotland clearly hope to take Brazil unawares. Their coach, long-ball team. If that is the case have been misquoted - then complacency and ignorance may yet undermine Brazil

Their captain, Dunga, underlined the impression that Zagallo has mistaken Scotland for the Republic of



ing and may use him just behind a The Stade de France in St Denis was calm yesterday before the storm of noise which will greet the opening of the World Cup when Scotland face Brazil this afternoon

Ireland, saying: "We intend to dictate respond to the atmosphere with in the expensively sponsored Nikes up a surprise". A Scottish victory play from the start and beat them at "calm assurance, not fear", dis- at the thought of Jackson- or even would arguably be the greatest ions to open with a defeat since Italy their own very physical game."

Mario Zagallo, has reportedly dis- media, Brown pointed out that his aster". Experience has taught him missed them as a typically British squad contained a European Cup that in every game, whatever the opwinner, Paul Lambert, and players position, a team is liable to enjoy five and Brown believes Zagallo must with champions' medals from Scot- or 10 minutes' ascendancy. When land England Germany and France. Scotland's time comes, Brown ar-"So we've got a lot of winners in the gued, they must be ready to gamble, team, but not in the World Cup," he to throw an extra man forward; in said, adding with another impish which case Jackson may have a dual smile: "Not yet."

Brown anticipates that they will If the Brazilians are not quaking

missing suggestions that they might Gallacher, whose whippet-like speed upset in the tournament's six decin 1950. For the benefit of the Brazilian play defensively as "a recipe for dis- offers Brown his best hope of scor- ades. It would certainly rank along-

responsibility.

By Trevor Haylett

CHELSEA HI-JACKED World

Cup preparations for a second

time yesterday as they com-

pleted the £4.6m signing of the Frenchman, Marcel Desailly, 24

hours after agreeing to pay

roughly half that for the Span-

The versatile French in-

ternational, who has 41 caps, fi-

nalised his transfer from Milan

at the World Cup centre in

Paris. He said he was looking

forward to the challenge of

playing in the Premiership

after five years at San Siro. "Tm

happy and it's an important

thing in my career to go and play in England," he said.

"It was a big decision to leave Milan but Chelsea are in

the Cup-Winners' Cup and they

midfield or defence, represents

the third major summer in-

vestment by Chelsea's manag-

er, Gianluca Vialli, and

determination to add the Pre-

miership crown to their collec-

Desailly, who can play in

are a club that's growing."

ish full-back, Albert Ferrer.

ing - neither are the Scots daunted by the thought of facing Ronaldo. They have worked hard to avoid being caught one-on-one against the pace of the 21-year-old prodigy, but the first priority will be to stifle his supply.

Scotland are also heartened by the history of the opening fixture, starters ended goalless until 1982,

Chelsea capture

side the 1-0 triumphs by the United States over England in 1950 and North Korea against Italy in 1966.

The past eight opening games, stretching back 32 years to a barren start by Alf Ramsey's England against Uruguay, have delivered a total of five goals. Four consecutive which, Brown noted, "often throws when Belgium's 1-0 success meant

Argentina became the first champ-

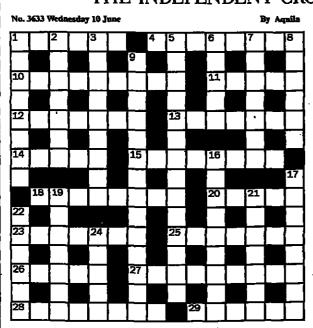
Four years later, a Bulgarian land came from behind to hold Italy 1-1. Their performance was notable for the heroics of Boris Mikhailov, who, coincidentally, followed Jim Leighton into Reading's goal. Leighton, 40 next month, wins his 87th cap today against the country whose victory in Turin eight years ago seemed have ended his international career.

duced another surprise to fuel Scottish fantasies. Cameroon overcoming Argentina, Diego Maradona off. Four years ago, Germany became the first holders in six finals to begin their defence positively. However, their victory over Bolivia, again by a single goal, offers further evidence to suggest that there will

be no slaughter at St Denis.

Scholes gives England victory, page 29

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



- 1 Singular swimming-stroke with a bad hand (6) 4 Bashful in spinal injuries
- 11 Pound given to church,
- with some coppers (5)
 12 One, having compéred
 outside, is elevated (7)
- 13 Affair with Alison I aban-
- doned (7) 14 Haggard horseman (5) 15 North African in a regal
- constitution (8)
- 18 Toastmaster to hold up
- rosé that is drunk (8)
 20 Inexpensive fruit? (5)
 23 Lamb after highball can
- 26 Acknowledge sappers performance (5)
 27 Doom of mother race (9)
 28 Bishops in these roles nev-
- er change colour (8) 10 Silent pet trained to be vi-cious (9) Expected arrival of vet, and with treatment (6)
 - DOWN Genstone - perhaps one
 - re-set (8) Science in split? Declare
 - null and void! (7) Does one have trouble keeping watch with this carpal disorder? (5,4)
 Wantonly halts migration
 - of these numbers (14)
 One that surpasses, for the listener, a letter from overseas (5) Failure to retain seaman I
- 8 The Spanish gooseberry? (6) Deceased's name released

as a safety measure (4, 4,

- 16 Carpet salesman over border - and moving! (9)
 17 Old gag for a horse (8)
 19 Wife once taking notes in
- costal architecture (7)
- costal architecture (7)
 21 How like a primate, to
 copy love (7)
 22 Priest carried in a bicycle
 rickshaw (6)
 24 Suggistron heard from Latvians formerly (5)
 - tion of cups from last season. Pierluigi Casiraghi began the latest continental drift towards Stamford Bridge when

he arrived as a club record 25.4m transfer from Lazio, Ferrer has a wealth of experience, adding 35 international caps to a medal haul that includes five Spanish championships, the European Cup and two Cup-Winners' Cups. He has appeared 330 times for Barcelona.

Champions' League but this the South of France this week-will be a new experience for me end in what is seen as an indiand I think that experience will be very successful," he said. landing O'Neill

Martin O'Neill, who has spent the last week thinking over his future, has 48 hours to quit as manager of Leicester City-or Everton will look elsewhere for a manager.

The Irishman is aware that the Goodison club are involved in a long and protracted process of sacking their manager, Howard Kendall, and the job would appeal to him. However the Merseysiders also need to know O'Neill's plans quickly or they will move to install an alternative replacement, with the Manchester United No 2 Brian Kidd and the former Celtic manager Wim

Jansen two possible targets. Meanwhile, Peter Johnson, the beleagured Everton chairman who has won himself more criticism by leaving Kendall in the dark about his future, will head for a World Cup break in

underlines the London club's

Desailly: Chelsea bound

£4.6m Desailly cation of his confidence in

> The Southampton manager Dave Jones has opened negotiations to sign the French striker, David Zittelli, from the German side, Karlsruhe. The player is out of contract this summer and will fly to England for talks over a free transfer next week.

Jones has been given £10m to spend on strengthening his squad and needs to bring in a striker after last week's £7.25m sale of Kevin Davies to Blackburn Rovers. Jones is also tracking the

Belgian international Lokonda Mpenza from Standard Liège and has held talks with the Newcastle defender Darren Peacock and Tottenham's David Howells, Saints have also expressed

an interest in signing the Black-burn winger Stuart Ripley and Empoli's £5million-rated striker, Carmine Esposito.

The Belgium and Excelsion Mouscron defender Gordan Vidovic said yesterday that he is close to signing a three-year contract with Aston Villa for around £430,000.

Sheffield United have told Newcastle that they are not prepared to sell their #2m-rated defender Wayne Quinn until they have appointed a new manager. Reading are waiting to hear if Manchester United's reserve midfielder Grant Brebner will join them, while the Football League newcomers Halifax Town have appointed Chris Holland to succeed John Stockwell as chairman.

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ish World Cup training base in Chantilly. "Twe played in the

Ferrer and Chelsea concluded negotiations at the Span-

are touring Britain through-

out the World Cup period.

Knopfler's Notting Hillbillies are at Ronnie Scott's, Birm-

51 Even better news for in-

ingham, from July 10.

same night.

62 And - please try to contain

on July 11 and 12 (day of the

Final). It's no shame to be

knocked out in the opening

But enough low culture. Serious

music lovers can rejoice in ...

64 The Hampton Court Festi-

val, starring Bryn Terfel,

José Carreras, Paco Pena

and Nigel Kennedy (pre-

miering his Hendrix Con-

certo with full 12-piece

dielight (well, okay, not that

serious) at the Royal Albert

Romeo and Juliet at the

Royal Albert Hall (June 18-

mer season, opening at the

Coliseum on July 7 (semi-fi-

nals day, incidentally) with

bathos, displays of extraor-

dinary but somehow irrrel-

evant accomplishments -

plus parents of small chil-

dren - should try The

Moscow State Circus in

Manchester (till Sunday)

and Blackburn (June 16-21)

Julie Andrews provide the

voice of a talking parrot are

in luck, too: Dr Doolittle be-

gins previews at Labatt's

Apollo, Hammersmith, from

out of the house and moves

71 Or Soul Food (June 12):

George Tillman's warm.

funny tale of a black Chica-

go family gathering for grub

and emotion with their ma-

Mira Sorvino battles mu-

tant cockroaches (an obvi-

ous metaphor, surely) in the

72 Or even Mimic (June 26):

And let's not forget, there are

in with a gay pai

triarch Big Mama

New York Subway.

June 29.

69 People who want to hear

68 Lovers of faded glory,

65 The Four Seasons by Can-

66 Balletomanes will flock to

67 ... The Royal Ballet's sum-

band): June 11 -20.

Hall, July 12.

La Bayadere.

30), or ...

round, honestly ...

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WEDNESDAYREVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS •

Enough football, already. There are so many better things to do ited Norwegian dependency with one's time, so many alternatives. Why not, for example, visit one of the many numbries that are (a) fascinating destinations, and (b) have not qualified for France 98. Constries like ...

1 . treiand, whose attractions include Guinness, rain ... and 10% added peace

Russia: a lousy economy, nating ... and big!

3 Australia: fond of barbecued prawns, apparently 4. New Zealand: home of Cloudy Bay, the world's finest Sauvignon Blanc

5 Portugal: far better beaches and surf than Spain, plus they let the bulls live. 8 Zimbabwe: spectacular wildlife, scenery, exchange-

7 Kenya: as per Zimbabwe,

but more dangerous. Thailand: but for God's sake don't buy a souvenir bride.

B Bali: the Indonesian crisis has left it completely empty of tourists, even prawn-loving Aussies.

10 Canada: not at all boring ... honestly.

Trouble is, all these nations will be taking World Cup TV broadcasts, despite their evident failings. There is, however, one nation whose team will be in France, but whose interest in football - sorry, sarccer, is negligible, viz ...

11 USA: no footy on telly, radio, or in the papers. They've qualified, and they just don't

Then again there is a domestic option, to wit ...

12 The Huntsham Court Hotel near Tiverton, Devon (01398 361 365) is both a delightfully eccentric country house also an entirely TV-free zone.

Still not certain enough of escaping? Okay try these ...

ಗ್ಯಾಂಡಿಗೆ ಸಾಗಿ ಸಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

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13 The Mapimi Desert in Mex-THE LABORATE BY ico has a mysterious 300 square-mile Zona del Silencio in which radio waves can neither be received, nor sent. So no World Cup telly there, either. 14 The two territories with the

lowest population densities (and thus least footy-related chat per square mile) are Antarctica and Greenland. 15 The longest explored cave in the world is the 77,000-foot

Nohoch na Chich system in Quintana Roo, mexico. You should be safe at the far end of that. 16 The deepest cave is the

5.256-foot Gouffre Jean Bernard. But watch out ... it's in France.

17 But there's always Ogof Ffynnon Ddu in Wales (1,010 feet) - and the Weish, sadly, have no World Cup interest. 18 Or climb Kankar Punsum, the world's highest unconquered peak, speaking of

which ... 13 The country in which it stands, Bhutan, excludes corrupting Western culture . like football Still too risky? How about ...

ited Norwegian dependency 1,700 miles from the coast of Anatarctica and officially the most remote place on

about.

22 Jamie Redknapp: another England discard, who's spending his World Cup in the Caribbean. Then again, he's also marrying the pert pop singer Louise, so he probably won't welcome the interruption.

23 Rupert Murdoch: he'll need consoling having been deprived of the chance to buy the Cup for Sky Sports and thus sell yet more subs and pay-per-view to frenzied

her female subjects Her Maj will not be joining Princes Phil, Andy, Ed, Chuck and Hal in France and so will be in need of amusing company (might make a change).

missionary work among Tory nundits like ...

27 Dominic Lawson, all of whom have publicly expressed their loathing of football, out of solidarity, perhaps with ...

eral? Try ...

(with a superb cellar) and 29 John Mortimer came out

in his youth. But if Tony loves fcotball, Gordon must surely now be agin it.

lads, why not invest in ...

with their time. Such as ... 32 Complete their take-over of the world while all the men

33 Learn to fly. Over 33 days there will be 64 World Cup

flying-time, but £8,000 plus. 35 Linguaphone language courses (£180-£300) assume around 90 hours of study. Apparently Spanish and Dutch are the easiest to learn - and

But maybe places don't turn

you on. Perhaps you're a people person. People who need people are, allegedly, the happiest people on earth. So why not get to know ...

21 Gazza: the World Cup is the last thing he'll want to talk

footie addicts.

24 The Queen: standing up for

Combine your socialising with

25 Simon Heffer ... 26 Frank Johnson and

28 Mrs Thatcher: so refreshingly anti-soccer she tried to make all fans carry ID

Prefer somone a tad more lib-

against footy-mania on the day England played Ger-many in the Italia '90 semifinal Or ...

30 Gordon Brown: way sporting

For all the propaganda linking New Ladettes with men in shorts, most women still fail to see the significance of overpaid idiots kicking a ball around. So

... Viagra? This could be your big chance. Unless your would-be partners have something better to do

are distracted. Or, more specifically ..

games of 90 minutes each. That's a minimum 94.5 hours, more than enough for the 50 hours (and c.£5,000 + VAT) it takes to get a Private Pilot's License. 34 Try helicopters: 40 hours

ways to avoid France '98

BY DAVID THOMAS

good outside tips for the 39 Go to the gym. Why swallow World Cup too. 36 That same time devoted to

computer training would make you a PC expert at basic programming. 37 A four-part Microsoft Office

course at Pitmans (£680) would get you up to advanced level - a handy jobqualifiation.

But since it is young men who are under-skilled these days, why don't they swallow their sexist pride and do ...

.. a secretarial course? With 60 hours training and 36 practice, you could reach 60 words-per-minute typing or shorthand. And your potential income would rise by c.£2,000 p.a.

And since young men, say the Army, are underfit ...

six-packs when 96 hours of weights should make your stomach look like one? 40 Learn to programme a video. Someone has to.

Still got time to spare?

41 Go on, write that novel: 2,000 words a day for 34 days will result in a slim, but significant volume ...

42 ... Or three film scripts. 43 Design a better Millennium logo. Shouldn't be difficult.

44 Invent a more persuasive Diana conspiracy. 45 Stop flicking over the foreign

pages and work out what's really going on in Kosovo ... 46 Or Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan,

48 Read Proust ...

The Spratley Islands etc... 47 Get on a Virgin train from London to Manchester. By the time you arrive the World Cup will all be over!

... and Underworld, the tural events. For example ... Book of the Year that wasn't 50 ... and that new paperback edition of Satanic Verses.

Bear in mind, too, the effect of daytime games involving England or Scotland. So ...

51 Enjoy the pleasures of empty shops and museums 52 Catch up on work in a peaceful, empty office ...

53 Irritate colleagues by inviting them to crucial meetings/job interviews/ salary reviews at 4.30 today, 4.30 next Tuesday (if Scots), or 1.30 on Monday (if English).

Normally snooty maitred s at trendy restaurants will be des-

perate for custom, so ... 54 Make June 22 and 26 your

nights for dining out. Of course, there are other cul-

55 The Rolling Stones start the tour that isn't coming to England in Nuremberg on Saturday. Check out the dates at Milan's San Siro Stadium (June 16) or the Estadio San Mames, Bilbao

(June 18) ... 56 ... and visit Frank Gehry's wild new museum while you're there.

57 The new Lloyd Webber musical whistle Down the w ind starts previews from June 17, opening night July L It's meant to be not bad .. No, really.

58 Ozzy Osbourne's Ozfest Festival at the Milton Keynes Bowl (June 20) is a must for all metalheads

59 Glastonbury (June 26-28) is perfect for rock-loving merchant bankers.

60 Great news for eccentric, 75 Two rugby Tests against the chubby curmudgeous! Bob

still other sports being played, apart from football. Cricket, for example, hence ...

73 The 2nd and 3rd Tests against South Africa at Lord's (June 18-22) and Old Trafford (July 2-6), plus the very last ... 74 Benson and Hedges Cup

Final, at Lord's, July 11th

Sporting masochists, too, should not miss the opportunities provided by tours of the southern hemisphere by Britain's rugby teams. Look out for ...

All Blacks ...

Dylan and Van Morrison 76 ... and one against South

But what about those events somniac Brummies! Mark which a Brit might win?

77 Scotsman David Coulthard could possibly triumph at

the French Grand Prix (July

your excitement - Van 5th), or even .. Halen play the NEC the 78 The British Grand Prix at Silverstone (July 12th) 63 Scots can go to T in the Park

And let's not forget the beefy, John Bull-esque figure of Greg Rusedski (a not rempotely Ukranian/Canadian individual, obviously), who may just, possibly, conceivably win ...

79 Wimbledon. Assuming Tim Henman doesn't.

80 Go fishing - they're the animals you can kill between meals, and not worry about being banned.

And speaking of politics, why

81 Be the first on your block to memorise the names of William Hague's exciting new Shadow Cabinet. Only one on your block, too ... 82 Join an Air France picket-

83 Cycle around Paris pretending to be a striking plain-clothes detective:

who's to know? 84 Get on the Internet: by July 12 you may just have (a) figured out how to surf. (b) found something interesting and (c) downloaded it.

85 Turn off the box and talk to your friends, family, lover. Go on, just try it. 86 Avoid the arguments inevitably caused by 85 by going into the garden: all

that rain is making it superfertile at the moment. 87 Boycott Sainsbury's ... it's the World Cup supermarket. 88 Break down. Don't call Green Flag - they're the

70 Want sensitive, femalefriendly, who-needs-men-England sponsors. 89 Turn your back on McDonanyway-style films? Try Object of My Affection alds, Walkers Crisps, Lu-(opens end June): Friends' cozade, adidas, Pizza Hut Jennifer Aniston is an exand any companies who use pectant Mum who kicks Dad footballers in their ads.

> yr write rambii letters in green ink, to all the TV companies, complaining about their ludicrously excessive World Cup cover-

age. Insist on a reply. 92 If reply does not arrive within five working days, compose more letters, increasing levels of abuse

and irrationality. 93 Smoke lots of dope ... Oh,

hang on, wrong editor ... Hit anyone who repeats that hackneyed Shankly quote about football not being a matter of life and death because, "It's more important

than that". No, it isn't. 95 Ditto anyone theorising about Fever Pitch.

96 Or ayone beginning a dinner-party conversation, "I only started liking football a couple of years ago, but Pm really into it now." 97 Spend the World Cup in jail,

by following advice in 92-6

Or, follow my personal tip ..

98 Devote all your waking hours to writing daft articles about avoiding France '98.

Arts

Finance and Secretarial 14-20

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actor is suing his own theatre company for mental cruelty, on the grounds that being forced to play big Shake-spearean roles has caused him occupational anguish. Here is an extract from yesterday's proceedings.

Counsel: You are an actor? Actor: That I am. Counsel: A Shakespearean actor: Actor: A very Shakespearean

actor. Counsel: And what is your name?

Actor: Do you mean the name I use upon the stage or the name my parents gave Counsel: I mean your real

Actor: Ah, but what do you mean by real name?



MILES KINGTON

We describe 1984 as Orwellian not Blairite'

Counsel: The name by which you were registered or under which you were christened. of

course. Actor: There is no "of course" about it. The name our parents gave us is one we had no choice in. It is something inflicted on us at birth. It is an uninvited piece of labelling which we can discard at will. And many of us actors do so discard our names. We embrace a name of our own choice and become known to the public under that name. Is that not more like a real name?

Counsel: Yes, but ... Actor: When Eric Blair changed his name to George Orwell, which was then his real name? When we refer to scribed in 1984, we call them Orwellian. We do not call them Blairite.

Counsel: Those of us outside New Labour do!

Judge: A hit! A palpable hit! Counsel: Thank you, my Lord. Now, will you tell us the name under which you prefer to be known?

Actor: The name by which I am known is Adam Crayston. Counsel: And it was under this name that you were chosen by the Terrestrial Theatre Company in 1997 to play the part of Macbeth.

A MOST extraordinary trial is going on in the High Court at the moment, in which an Shakespeare? Actor: The Scottish play, yes.

Counsel: The play which is called ..? Actor: The Scottish play. Counsel: Ah, but what is its real name, Mr Crayston? Actor: It all depends what you mean by real name ... Counsel: The name that appears on the title page and

the theatre programme ... Actor: Do I have to say it? Judge: What's going on here, Mr Willoughby? Why are you trying to get the plaintiff to utter the name of a play? Counsel: Because, my Lord, actors are a very superstitious lot and believe it is bad luck to say the name Mocbeth, so they say "the Scottish play" instead. I aim to force the plaintiff to say the word, in order to demonstrate to the court how irrationally and illogically he behaves.

Judge: Or, alternatively, to bring him bad luck. Counsel: I am prepared to take that risk, m lud. Judge: Good. Carry on. Counsel: Mr Crayston, it is your contention that having to play Macbeth adversely affected your mental state? Actor: It did, yes.

Counsel: Did you perhaps find yourself wishing to be King of Scotland? Were you tempted to have rivals murdered? Did you go looking for witches at night? Actor: No. It took a slightly different form.

Counsel: Tell us.

Actor: To be able to play the Scottish king properly, an actor has to master many different moods in one single performance. He starts as a loyal and eager subject. He ends as a roaring wounded lion. In between, he has known cowardice, ambition, murderous rage, terrible fear, tenderness and grim resolution. He has been feted and reviled. He has seen his wife go mad and had small children murdered. Judge: Good heavens. This

man sounds as if he needs psychiatric help to me. Actor: Exactly, my Lord. And after a few weeks of this, I felt the same myself. That is why I am seeking compensation. I was subject to mood swings, spiracy. I thought other actors were plotting against me. I even started to see things. Counsel: What sort of things did you start to see?

Actor: Why, look, behind the judge, in yonder seat there stands the figure of a hideous lion! It snarls, and makes as if to eat us all! No, stay! It fades, and we are safe again. Judge: I think we might adiourn this for a while. Blank verse proceedings are not quite my style.

More of this soon, I hope.

THE REVIEW

DAY BY DAY

MONDAY REVIEW

As well as our regular columnists, features and

expanded comment pages, Network, our

information technology section, moves to Monday.

TUESDAY REVIEW

An improved media section, with appointments,

moves to Tuesday. Visual arts and more health

pages are also Tuesday regulars

WEDNESDAY REVIEW

Fashion, midweek money pages, in addition to

finance and secretarial sections (previously

City+) will stay on Wednesday

THURSDAY REVIEW

Our education section will appear as a separate

tabloid section. Improved and expanded film

pages now move to Thursday

FRIDAY REVIEW

The architecture and science pages now move

to Friday. In addition, we will have a new law

section and our music pages

THE INDEPENDENT

Bigger and better



In the second of our series of coastal towns preparing for summer, by Nikki English, an empty boat rocks back and forth during the seafront fair at Bognor, West Sussex

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity

Police too powerful

Sir. The tenfold increase in police stops and searches, and disproportionate searches of members of ethnic minorities, is shocking but not surprising ("Blacks are targeted for police searches", 8 June). Over the past four years there has been a steady increase in police powers to stop and search, without the traditional safeguards to prevent arbitrary action and unjust discrimination by the police.

These changes have slipped through barely scrutinised, challenged, or even noticed by most Yet they may breach Article 5 (liberty and security of the person) and Article 8 (privacy) of the European Convention on Human Rights, shortly to be incorporated into our domestic law.

The Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 amended the Prevention of Terrorism Act 1989 to legitimise the existing "ring of steel" stops and searches at roadblocks in the City of London. The same statute gave the police new powers to set up stop-and-search zones wherever there are reasonable grounds to believe that serious incidents of violence may take place within the area. The Knives Act 1997

empowered the police to create stopand-search zones in any area where there are reasonable grounds to believe that some people would be carrying knives. These grounds are so broad that in theory they could include, for example, most football matches and many metropolitan areas for much of the time. Following the authorisation of a stop-andsearch zone, police officers can search anyone, without needing a

Changes to the Police and Criminal Evidence Act Code of Practice C, also in 1997, mean that the police can now search anyone they reasonably believe to be a member of a gang, or even their associates. This would enable a police officer to search an individual by reason of what is known generally about the company he or she keeps. It thus carries the test of reasonable suspicion into the realm of speculation.

Drastic changes are needed in the police culture which renders some people far more likely than others to be the target of suspicion just because of their racial or cultural identity. It is an absolutely fundamental aspect of our civil liberties that police officers should only be able to arrest, detain or search us if they have some objectively testable suspicion about a particular person for particular asons. Without this protection, police officers are not subject to the rule of law, they are the law. LIZ PARRATT Liberty London SE1

Sir: You report (5 June) that the Crown Prosecution Service, after a "fresh review" of the case in which the Nigerian asylum-seeker Shiji Lapite died after being arrested by the police, has decided not to prosecute any police officers. To enable your readers to

understand how Black people see such decisions, please allow me take them on an imaginary journey. A 34year-old healthy. White Briton, is picked up by the Nigerian police on a Lagos street in the wee hours of the morning. He is swaying as he walks and is suspected of being drunk, though he has not committed any act of disorderly conduct. He does not agree to be arrested, as he has done nothing wrong, in his own view. Five Nigerian policemen then place him in a neck-lock and use their batons to effect his arrest. They drive him to a police station. He is later found to be

dead. decides that no one should be prosecuted, because five Nigerian pathologists cannot agree on the exact cause of his death.

The laudable concern shown for British citizens who run into trouble abroad compares ill with the relative indifference of the same public and media to the fate of Blacks here. Such hypocrisy undermines the widely held notion that Britain is a liberal, civilised country whose example should be a shining light to Commonwealth and other countries that routinely abuse human rights. CAMERON DUODU

London SE15

Student loans

Sir: Your conclusion that nongraduates should not have to pay through their taxes for graduates' education is flawed (leading article, 6 June). If good-quality higher education is essential for the progress of society, then everyone benefits from it. To argue that higher education is simply a product which benefits the recipient, is to risk undermining society's progress. If your conclusion were to be accepted, it would follow that people without children should not have to pay through their taxes for the school education of millions of other people's children. Watch this

space...? This is certainly in tune with a political approach that says there is no such thing as society, but I thought that had been rejected at the last election. **BRIAN G SMART** Matlock, Derbyshire

Sir: Aversion to debt among children from poorer backgrounds will aggravate the current élitism of the higher education system. Taking on £10,000 or more of debt at the age of 18, even if the repayment period does begin later on, poses a genuine deterrent for children from poor families with no tradition of education at tertiary level. The maintenance grant is the only incentive for these prospective students in the current system of

funding.
While future graduate contributions sound fair in principle, in practice they fail to recognise attitudes among those who are most in need of greater participation in higher education.
ALEXANDRA PARDAL Edinburgh

The writer is an undergraduate at Edinburgh University

Sir: The fact that students are likely to graduate with debts of up to £10,000 is already proving a deterrent to many young people who would otherwise have seized the opportunity to benefit from higher education. The promise that student loans

will only need to be repaid once graduates can afford so to do is only worth as much as the trust which students have in their government. As we are deprived of the maintenance grant which was so staunchly defended by the present government when it was in opposition, students have good use to think carefully b accepting government statements. MATTHEW SMITH Corpus Christi College Cambridge

Sir: There are every year a tragic number of students who take their own lives. This toll arises from a number of causes; increasing financial pressures will increase it. MAYNARD HALL Wiaton, Cumbria

Sir: Your example (8 June, page 3) of an A-level student being pressurised into excessive part-time work appears to keep horses; and your example of a graduate recruited by the sex industry to pay off debts (same date, page 8) has also taken a round-the-world trip on the proceeds. Are we really expected to take this seriously? Dr TOBY BAILEY Edinburah

Sir: If the grant is abolished, can we then expect to see the dole being replaced by a loan, to be repaid once a job has been found? ANDREW COSGROVE Clare College Cambridge

Medical glass ceiling

Sir: Your article "Where are the female surgeons?" (6 June) raises some important questions. First, has there been any investigation into why the 11 women surgeons who preceded Briony Ackroyd in the flexible training scheme were unable to make it work? These schemes were designed specifically to retain. women with children in the profession, and were funded by taxpayers' money. It seems inconceivable that 11 out of 12 highly selected women surgeons fell short professionally - the explanation must lie elsewhere. The cost of training a doctor to consultant level is £250,000, and their loss represents the waste of a sum approaching

Second, that "they" threatened not to renew Briony Ackroyd's contract on the grounds that she was a woman and older than her fellow trainees is obviously illegal, and reflects the extraordinary ignorance of many male surgeons of the most basic aspects of equal opportunity treatment. I also was told "you will be too old to be a consultant", and that "we feel it is not possible to train a woman part-time in this department". This is part of male hospital culture that needs to be dealt with very vigorously.

Third, an inquiry into a surgeon's competence in training is very unusual, and must have been exceedingly painful. What proportion of men in training are subjected to this, compared with the women? If a disproportion exists, the reasons for initiating such an inquiry must be closely examined by an outside

I feel the profession is unable to monitor its own performance in training women. This is an appropriate area for external regulation. JANEY HUBER FRCS Cambridge

After the Lords

Sir: The second parliamentary chamber (leading article, 8 June) must be effective, independentminded and a real check on the House of Commons and the executive as well as on legislation emerging from Brussels. It cannot be any of these things unless it has constitutional legitimacy: people have to believe in it.

The hereditary House of Lords has a constitutional basis, however dim and distant, in the old hierarchy of monarchy and aristocracy. Because this basis remained intact the Lords were able - just about - to absorb the creation of life peers. However an entirely appointed second chamber such as the Government now proposes would have no constitutional or moral iustification at all

Since the hereditary principle has had its day, the only defensible basis for a second chamber now is direct election. Better still, we need a chamber detached from the politics and timescale of the House of Commons. It should be elected for a fixed term of five or seven years and by proportional representation, a principle which the Government has already conceded by implication when it talks about rough balance between Labour and Tory peers in an appointed House of Lords.

Of course such an elected chamber would have to be given real powers. There is scant chance that any government – especially the present one - or the Commons would agree to that, so it looks as though the basic issues of principle, which are really very simple, will continue to be dodged. MICHAEL JOHNSON London N6

Teenage mothers

Sir: There are two myths that liberal sex educators wish to promote. First, that school sex education leads to the delay of sexual activity. Secondly, that the Netherlands followed by Sweden have the lowest teenage pregnancy rates in Europe - whilst Britain has the highest. It is important that those making such assertions can show that they are based on evidence, not hearsay.

Your article "Too little: too late" (12 February) asserted that these two myths were fact. Having studied the research on the subject I have been unable to discover any reliable evidence showing that sex education does not encourage earlier sexual activity. The need for myth-making

has intensified because of the recent vogue for abstinence programmes in the US. The idea that sexual health might best be promoted by teaching abstinence is anathema to some liberal educators. The real issue for researchers is

premature and promiscuous sexual activity - first noted in the US, then in the Netherlands and latterly in the FRED NAYLOR

to explain the explosive growth in

Kingsdown, Corsham, Wilishire

Persecuted gays

Sir: Ann Widdecombe ("Tory hits out at gays and lone parents", 8 June) complains of gay men benefiting from "the politically correct jargon of equal rights" May I ask her to think

My only significant experience of discrimination, as a five-year-old schoolboy in the US, was for being English. It rapidly led me to realise two things. First, however many times I came home with a bloody nose I was still going to be English. Second, that I was not ashamed of . being English. I was proud of it and unwilling to give up one jot or tittle of my English idiom to accommodate bullying.

Ann Widdecombe, who does not lack for political courage, will understand how I felt. I am sure many gays who have been victims of discrimination felt exactly that same way. Why shouldn't they? Earl RUSSELL House of Lords

IN BRIEF

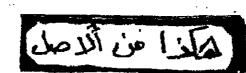
Sir. Richard House (letters, 5 June) would have us believe that the fruits of scientific endeavour are culturally relative, rather than objective. This silly postmodernist idea suggests that alternative beliefs are as valid as any scientific theory. In dinnertable-speak, this notion is often expressed as "science is a belief

system, just like religion". So, if you believe the Earth is flat you are no less correct than the majority who believe it is round. Likewise, an Indian yogi who believes he can fly really can defy the law of gravity. Dr House might wish to test his theory by stepping off the top of a tall building. Dr SIMON JONES London SW12

Sir: Does Prince Charles realise that the genetic manipulation he so strongly opposes is the very reason why he exists? In the past the process has taken many generations and has been rather haphazard. He might, for example, like to consider George III, Science can now speed up the process to one or two

generations. ALEX MACFARLANE

Sir: It has been said that football is the "new rock'n'roll". In the light of recent events, I would suggest that football is, in fact, the new darts. TONY COX Brighton, East Sussex



*THE INDEPENDENT

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Should we envy or pity the French?

WILL THE real France stand up, please. The sick man of Europe – stuck in the 1960s, a sclerotic, strike-ridden, trade union-dominated basket case? Or a mellow haven of the good life, with falling unemployment, booming exports, and a brasserie on every street corner?

When the World Cup kicks off this afternoon it will begin a month long orgy of all things French. But it is the surly side of France that will greet the Scottish and Brazilian fans in Paris. Air France pilots, junior hospital doctors and policemen will all be taking part in what seems to be France's second sport - striking. So has anything changed? Underneath the superficial similarity of these apparent throw-backs to Britain in the 1970s, the strikes are subtly different – more like Britain in the 1980s, and the reaction to Thatcherism. Part of the French problem is that strike action is seen as a normal part of negotiating tactics. The usual French strike has one motive - pay. And most public-sector strikes are a one way bet; whatever the result, any lost pay is handed over when the strike is over. But these are different. They are not so much a demand for more pay as a lashing out against plans to introduce more flexibility into employment contracts - a sign that at last French employers, state as well as private, are starting to face up to the need for change. This is not before time; although French unemployment has been falling for the past eight months and is now below 12 per cent, the total is still among the highest in the industrialised world. And youth unemployment is getting worse, with almost a third of all eligible under-24-year-olds out of work.

The Air France strike is an archetype of today's France. The pilots have, like most of the French workforce, effectively prescribed unemployment in the past, demanding high wages that price jobs out of existence. The management is now trying to force them to accept pay cuts. In a sector which is typified by inefficiency and waste, Air France remains one of the worst offenders. The Transport Secretary, Jean-Claude Gayssot - a Communist - has fended off tentative plans to privatise the airline. Within the one dispute we have the French economic story: creeping acceptance of the need to change, bloody minded workers, almost the last redoubt of communism, and - most likely - an eventual muddling through.

But for all this, France remains the fourth largest economy in the world, has productivity levels the envy of Britain, an export-led economy that will stand it in good stead in the transition to EMU, insignificant inflation and interest rates of just over three per cent. Gordon Brown must wish at times that we should have such



problems. So why is it that Lionel Jospin is regarded with such barely concealed contempt by the Blairites? First, he gets - and deserves - little credit for the economic improvements. Most of them are the result of the tough measures undertaken by his predecessors to force France into meeting the EMU criteria. He has at best been wise enough not to interfere. At worst, his government has responded to the new demands of a changing world economy by ostrich-like measures - the proposals, for instance, to introduce a 35-hour week and to extend job sharing, which will tackle the symptom of unemployment, not the cause.

More fundamentally, the Blairite inheritance is very different. Tony Blair and the New Labour reformulation of social democracy are inconceivable without the benefit of Lady Thatcher's reforms. Even before Blair, Labour was undergoing a seismic ideological shift in response. Lionel Jospin however comes not, as Blair, from out of the 1980s, but from a 1970s socialism that was never extinguished. With the socialists in power, and an economy large and strong enough to hide the need to change, there was no change. Today there is no hiding place, and France is at last entering the

A waste of energy, Mr Meacher

A DECADE AGO, when the year 2000 seemed a distant prospect, the then Environment Secretary, Chris Patten, set the target of recycling a quarter of the average dustbin by the millennium. By the latest estimate, we will not even get to within two thirds of that goal.

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So the Environment Minister, Michael Meacher, is right to draw attention to the need for greater recycling. But he seems to be suffering from a bad dose of pre-reshuffle junior ministerialitis, a traumatic disorder which occurs when the victim believes he is soon to depart the ranks of government and launches himself on a frenetic bout of last-minute activity designed to boost his profile and show how important he is to the running of the country.

Promoting ideas that make recycling easier is one thing. When the consultation paper, entitled Less Waste: More Value, is published, it is to be hoped that it will contain practical ideas for making recycling easier. Instead, reaction to the paper is likely to be dominated by the apparent proposal to get the tax system involved. Whether it is in the form of tax breaks, tax penalties or council-tax rebates is almost irrelevant. The real concern is that this is an Old Labour approach in a New Labour guise. Who is to police the system? A new agency, with yet more environmental bureaucrats - or will dustmen be required to tick off a tax form and inspect the contents of rubbish bins as they make their rounds?

Instead, the Government should concentrate on measures with a practical bent, such as assisting the more laggardly councils in providing recycling facilities. And who has not sighed in frustration at the wasteful packaging that covers so much that we buy.

When Mr Meacher was questioned yesterday he was all smoothness and light. His ideas are not proposals, he opined, but suggestions. He should be forgiven his impression of Sir Humphrey only if it is a sign that he is already back-tracking.

One nation, two halves

WE ARE a nation of two halves. Some of us want to give it 150 per cent and can't wait to get stuck into Des, Mottie and South Korea v Mexico. Quite remarkable. If we don't like it, we'll have to learn to take it or end up sick as parrots. At the end of the day, everyone can agree that it's all about getting the ball into the back of the net. But the game is only over when the ref blows the whistle so, since the game is about winners, let's hope that our English and Scottish boys play blinders.

Lord Cranborne, his grandfather and a game with high stakes

FIRST A LITTLE history. The last time a Lord Cranborne was Leader of the Conservative Opposition in the House of Lords after a Labour landslide was in 1945. The programme for the Attlee government's first year launched an assault on the commanding heights of the economy which was calculated, in a way that makes the Blair government look feebly consensual by comparison, to horrify every red-blooded Tory.

Ì

Yet in the 1945 Lords debate on the King's Speech, Lord Cranborne, while sharply criticising the measures in the speech, had these cautionary words to say to his colleagues: "Whatever our personal views, we should frankly recognise that these proposals were put before the country at the recent general election and that the people of this country, with the full knowledge of these proposals, returned the Labour Party to power. The Government may, therefore, I think, fairly claim that they have a mandate to introduce these proposals.

"I believe that it would be constitutionally wrong, when the country has so recently expressed its view, for this House to oppose proposals which have been definitely put before the

electorate..." It is this admirably democratic principle, known as the Salisbury doctrine in deference to the ancient title to which all Lord Cranbornes are heirs, through which his own grandson now intends to drive not so much a coach and horses as a lengthy queue of Eurostars, 20-ton lorries, and double-decker buses.

The Tory leader in the Lords has hinted, to put it at its politest, that he

will use the in-built Conservative majority in the Lords to do everything he can to block not only the proposal he is protesting about, the removal of the voting rights of hereditary peers, but the other legislation that passes through the Lords as well. For his part, Lord Richard, the Leader of the Lords, repeated yesterday that he was ready to invoke the Parliament Act to force the bill through the Commons if it becomes necessary.

Do not be deceived by the dustiness of the subject. This is a game being played for very high stakes indeed One of the most frequent criticisms on the left of the Blair government is its alleged reluctance to make enemies, to engage with the forces of reaction. Over this issue, however, lack of engagement is not a problem. Gears will grind and brakes will squeal. The hereditary peers' capacity to inflict grave damage on the Government's legislative programme by delaying measures for up to two years is not

This promises, unless either side has a change of heart, to be one of the great constitutional showdowns between a left-of-centre government and the overwhelmingly Tory-

dominated House of Lords. The ostensible argument of the Tory leadership is seductive. It is that the proposal will produce the "greatest quango in the land" and that it is the product of the Government's failure to lay out its plans for a properly elected second chamber. Delay the abolition of the hereditaries' right to to sit and vote in the House of Lords vote, the Tories imply, and we will help will be ended by statute". If that isn't you over time to develop radical long- a proposal on which, to use the 1945 being a genuine reformer, who wants



DONALD MACINTYRE

A growing number of Tory MPs think their leader in the Lords is driving the party towards an electoral brick wall

appropriate to a modernised democratic Britain in the 21st century. Of course, the Tories are right that

the first stage reform of an appointed Lords is a pale and dispiriting shadow of what a proper second chamber should be. There are however two problems with the Tories' approach.

The first is that a simple bill abolishing hereditary voting rights is what the British people indisputably voted for on 1 May last year. The manifesto said that "as an ini-

tial, self-contained reform, not dependent on further reform in the future, the right of hereditary peers term plans for a second chamber fully Lord Cranborne's words, "the gov- to see a lively, democratic second

ernment ... may fairly claim a man- chamber, got nowhere with cross date", I don't know what is.

The Salisbury doctrine was good enough for the grandfather when discussing measures which included the nationalisation of the Bank of England and the entire coal industry. But it isn't good enough for the grandson when defending the voting rights of a hereditary peerage which polls show two-thirds of the country want abolished.

The second is the small question of whether Lord Cranborne is quite as open to reform as he claims. If the Cranborne blueprint for an elected chamber exists, it has passed me by. And since such a Tory plan actually exists, namely the one for a twothirds elected, one-third appointed, second chamber drawn up 20 years ago by that revolutionary old desperado Sir Alec Douglas-Home, it might not be too difficult a task to produce

Lord Cranborne argues, of course, that it is not for him to do the Government's work. If the Government wants to agree a one-stage leap to a democratic second chamber let them produce their own plan.

Now there are grounds for believing that some ministers - Jack Straw for one - are more comfortable with the idea of an appointed Upper House than they should be. But even they would not let themselves be outflanked if the Tories were clearly serious about a "big bang" approach to Lords reform. And Lord Richard. who for all his worldly experience as a lawyer-diplomat shows every sign of party talks on how such a chamber might be composed.

Ministers think Cranborne has been playing for time, that he is a reactionary wolf in a reformist sheep's clothing. But then they would. That analysis matters more because it is shared by a rapidly growing number of Tory MPs, particularly the younger ones, who believe privately that the noble Lord is leading them, apparently with the blessing of William Hague, towards an electoral brick wall.

OK, there is the mouth-watering prospect of tying the Government up in legislative knots for much of the Parliament. But they will be paying a heavy price with the voters for defending an archaic institution which makes Tory pretensions to a classless society look ridiculous. After all, as Paddy Ashdown has said, the Tories would have an ample part to play in formulating a democratic second chamber in the all-party talks envisaged in the pre-election Lib-Lab agreement on constitutional reform. Such talks are being considered along with the alternative of a Royal

Commission by a Cabinet committee. But then there is a difference between the Cranborne of 1945 and the Cramborne of 1998. The one in 1945 believed that in time the British people would change their minds and vote out the proposals passed by the Attlee government. The one in 1998 knows that no party will ever go to the country promising to restore the voting rights of hereditary peers. This, as Cranborne knows, is a last ditch. But a principle is a principle. Grandad must be spinning in his grave.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

'Heaven knows i made mistakes in my nie I am neither genius nor saint' Jeffrey Archer, author and politician

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

'All that I know most surely about morality and obligations, I owe to football' Albert Camus. writer, philosopher and goalkeeper

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YTHE INDEPENDENT

Eileen McNamara, Boston Globe (US)

IT DIDN'T take Harvey Silverglate, Andrew Good and Barry Schecklong to cut Elaine Whitfield Sharp loose, did it?

The former colleagues of the sacked defence lawyer Whitfield Sharp are not beneath casting aspersions in her direction.

"Unfortunately, Ms Sharp has at times exhibited an aberrant pattern of behaviour," Silverglate, Good and Scheck
verglate, Good and display of
said, in a stunning display of

disloyalty that accompanied their announcement that Whitfield Sharp had been fired from the Woodward defence team.

If only they had elaborated. What, we can only wonder, is Harvey Silverglate's idea of "an aberrant pattern of be-

Could anything Whitfield Sharp has done have been more bizarre than the sight of the wild-eyed Silverglate on

MONITOR

THE NEWS OF THE WORLD Today: American reactions to

the Louise Woodward affair cult" because they testified to competitive defamation among

their conviction that Louise a pack of deranged lawyers. Woodward battered Matty Eap-

pervision? There was no firm physical

babysitter or nanny.

evidence that it was Woodward, rather than Matthew's

been handled by a mature

Once seething tension

erupted with the au pair over

her social life, how stupid could

parents be to leave their very

small children under her su-

excluded.

ploited their 18-year-old au skull fracture and weeks-old

pair for duties that should have broken wrist.

The international focus on the Eappen case (the trial was broadcast in England) is highly embarrassing to the American

Indeed, the sometimes

homicidal hostility of toddlers

toward an infant sibling who

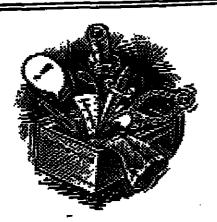
displaces them in the family

limelight is well established in

the annals of psychology.

Every possible alternative

hypothesis needed to be



PANDORA

THE CLINTON era in Washington DC hit a new low last week when Congressman Dr Tom Coburn delivered a sex education lecture, complete with hideous colour slides, of sexually transmitted diseases, to a group of young interns at the House of Representatives.

Coburn is a right-wing doctor from Oklahoma who previously attacked a US television network for showing Spielberg's epic about the Holocaust, Schindler's List, because it included "full-frontal nudity, violence and profanity". Clearly a deep thinker, Coburn told the interns over a lunch of pastrami sandwiches, that "men are liars", but assured them, "I gotta tell you I like sex."

As a number of American college students come to Parliament as interns every year, Pandora wonders if they will expect the same educational treatment when they arrive. Certainly Westminster is not short of experts. There's Cecil, Robin. Alan, David, even Paddy could speak with some authority on the subject ...

MANY APOLOGIES to the Samaritans for Pandora's suggestion on 5 May that the charity's radio commercial was tasteless. Having looked carefully at the broadcasted script, Pandora can see nothing tasteless in the text. It's only the unfortunate title printed at the top of the script page -"Don't Hang Up" - that seems in dubious taste when affiliated with the worthy anti-suicide volunteer

THE FRIGHTFULLY expensive and obnoxiously exclusive fashion boutique Voyage turned away Julia Roberts (right) a few weeks ago because she didn't have her "membership card", or so W magazine reports. (Some months back it was reported to have denied access to Madonna.) When Pandora spoke to someone called Rocky at the locked shop yesterday, he put the blame on the paparazzi.

wasn't

broadcast.

'Yes, we asked for her card at the door. But Julia was being hounded by the photographers and she simply ran away. Later her assistant rang us and arranged for her to come in after-hours." As for Madonna, Rocky said: 'I don't think we could turn people like that away." Needless to say, people like Pandora had better stick to the Portabello Road.

THE ROLLING Stones are, of course, not the only rock 'n' roll stars to have turned against New Labour in recent days. Pulp's latest release Cocaine Socialism includes lines such as "So can you bring them to my party and get them to sniff this (party line) and all I'm saying is come and rock the vote for me ..." While Pulp lead singer and lyricist Jarvis Cocker may not be in the running for this paper's political commentator job. his caterwaul of abuse will influence thousands of

young people. So what has influenced Cocker, a Labour voter, to attack Tony Blair's party? Pandora rang the singer's mother, Christine Connolly. a Conservative who lost her recent bid to become a parish councillor in Nottinghamshire by just one vote, and asked if her persuasive powers were responsible. "I'm my person; he's his

person," said his mother, refusing to take any credit. However, she was clearly a very proud mum and found her son's recent

anti-Blair attitude "quite wonderful actually". And wonderful, too, Labour continues to bring this nation's families

closer together. THE DON'T Choke Britain Campaign's National Car-Free Day, faces a tough challenge next

Tuesday. It coincides with the planned Underground strike to run from 14-16 June. Will the streets of the Smoke be filled.

Amsterdam-like with bicycles? Is Oxford Circus full of trained elephants?

The British can't make radio waves

CARELESS TALK is a profitable business. Achieving an audience of 2.3 million listeners, in just two years, makes Talk Radio an exciting enough prospect to have attracted the restless attention of the people's populist, Kelvin MacKenzie. Everywhere on the dial, audiences are filling up airtime. But not very well, unfortunately; for when it comes to public discourse, the British are still learning to talk.

No wonder Americans invented the talk-show; they are playing to their strength as epic monologuists. If you listen to an ordinary American giving an eye-witness report of an event, you gain a far clearer idea of what happened than from the circumlocutory mumbles of the

average British man or woman. On radio phone ins in the US, even those in the bulging intersection of radio's Venn diagram labelled "nutter" can express their views clearly and forcibily. The British equivalent features hesitation, repetition and contradiction galore, with the contributor more often then not having to be steadied on the tightrope of syntax by the host.

Verbal ineptitude cuts across



ANNE **MCELVOY**

Most callers wanted pornographers strung up while objecting to government infringing their right to receive

hard-core satellite porn

classes and educations. Elite British graduates rarely match their American counterparts for spoken fluency. I suspect this goes back to so rarely being asked for an opinion when we are growing up. For all the fuss about child-centered education,

most of us pass through the education system without anyone asking us what should have been done better or not done at all. When they want our opinion, they told us crisply, they'd ask for it. But they

Media literacy has to be learned and practised, so it may be that the proliferation in interactive radio and television will in time produce a more articulate population. When Radio 4's Any Answers changed its format from letter to phone in, the decline in the quality of counterblasts was striking. The British write a fierce letter - brimstone is our natural mode. But we remain far too craven towards talk-show hosts to make the shows irrily interesting.

The nerveless Chris Evans evokes a kind of ritualised awe on his Virgin radio phone-in - not a deviopment he has been at all anxious to stall Typical caller: "Tm just calling to say I think you're receeeeelly great, Chris. And all my mates here in the widget factory in Walsall think so too. The show's bril-Kant." Mr Evans: "Thanks Bob from Walsall. What do you think about Gazza bring left out of the squad?"

Caller: "I think what you said about it before was absolutely right Chris. Brilliant." The desire to receive the biscuit of approbation from the Man on the Radio remains tiresomely intact, even on those stations that pride themselves on their lack of

This constant desire to be nice and to earn niceness in return undermines the potential of chat radio to be a truly invigorating and listenable medium. In an unscientific study of talk shows throughout Europe, I found the the Russians score highest for death-threats on air. I recommend St Petersburg radio, where there is none of that "I'm sorry, I have to cut you off there". The nightime phone-in host responds to declarations of murderous intent with a weary, "yeah,

yeah. Next please.' The British are by far the most difficult listeners to move to anger. Talk Radio's thankfully short-lived experiment with shock-jocks failed not only because Caesar the Geezer was less sharp and anarchic than his American counterparts, but because his excesses failed to make people pick up the phone in response.

Coming from the non-shocking end of Talk Radio's guest list, I am intrigued and encouraged by the fact that what does get people phoning and talking are the big themes. True, no producer would dream of announcing that tomorrow's subjects will be constitutional reform and libertarianism versus collective responsibility. But I have had lively discussion with listeners on other worthy subjects.

One topic was what sort of body should replace the House of Lords an Athenian-style lottery was hotly favoured above a Blainsed quangocracy. And then there was a session in which most of the callers wanted pornographers strung up, while objecting violently to the prospect of government infringing their right to receive hard-core Continental satellite porn in the liv-

I held out against porn on satellites despite a switchboard of red angry lights marked "disagree strongly". The isolation was terrible Only Harold from Pinner agreed with me. Thank you Harold, I think you're receally great. Even if you did think I was Ann Widdicombe.

Welcome death of a Great African Dictator

MOST NIGERIANS are overjoyed. All over the world, we are celebrating the sudden death on Monday of our president, General Sani Abacha.

He died young, in his prime. He was 54 and looked 45. Many of us gloomily assumed that he'd be around, making our lives a complete misery, for another decade at least. Many of those who actively opposed Abacha were regarded as heroes. But it was widely believed that they didn't stand a chance of getting rid

And then a heart attack struck the Great African Dictator, out of the blue. Sure, there had been rumours about his health for ages. But nobody seriously believed that he'd croak this side of the millennium. And we simply cannot believe our luck.

Depressions have lifted. Champagne corks have been opened. Parties have been thrown. More are planned. If I was Mrs Abacha, I'd grave – because there is a possibility that pilgrims will dance or spit on

Yes, it is unseemly and ghoulish shameful and evil, even – to rejoice when any man dies. But, hell, we're only human. And, as Abacha himself proved, there is a dark side to human nature.

General Sani Abacha was, by far, the worst president Nigeria ever had, and that's saying something in a country which has been dominated by a series of military bootboys since it broke away from British colonial rule in 1960

When Abacha grabbed the reins of power in 1993, some Nigerians were delighted because he had toppled a despised regime and was making altruistic noises. He said that he wouldn't stick around for long. He would just keep the throne warm until the country had prepared itself for the transition to democracy.



DONU **KOGBARA**

Abacha was different. Immediately it became apparent that he was a sadist, a psychopath and a control freak

Supporters of MKO Abiola - a sopresidential election victory had been annulled by Abacha's predecessors - felt that they had cause for

I was, in 1993 - and still am, in 1998 - a supporter of Abiola. And I'd have liked to believe that Abacha was capable of giving Abiola his due. But since Abiola was a tacitum, tightlipped soldier with chilling, unsmiling eyes and access to lots and lots of tanks and truckloads of guns, I couldn't understand why so many people took his democratic promises seriously.

Abacha didn't strike me as the pluralistic type who would care about popularity and willingly step down for anybody. I expected him to cling to power for as long as he could.

He turned out to be much, much worse. I hate to sound as if fascism is remotely acceptable. But you have to put things into perspective, and, if the truth be told, until Abacha

came along, Nigerian dictators had never been quite so thorough.

Sure, they were allergic to elections and the rule of law. Sure, they harassed their enemies. Sure, they weren't intellectuals with a firm grasp of economic theory. Sure, they looted the Treasury and enriched their relatives and strumpets. Sure, they were so amazingly vulgar that it was hard to believe that many of them had been trained at Sandhurst

But, during the pre-Abacha era, most Nigerians never felt truly oppressed. Nigeria never felt like Chile under General Pinochet or Uganda under General Idi Amin. Government critics didn't mysteriously disappear in the middle of the night. Journalists generally got away with whinging. And it was fine to make rude remarks about the authorities over a few beers in your favourite

Until Abacha, Nigerian dictators were more laid-back than their counterparts in other countries. and some attracted genuine affection and respect.

Murtala Muhammed is remembered as a reformer. Gowon and Babangida were frequently described as nice guys, because they rarely resorted to cruelty, and tried hard to be genial and were almost democratic in their desire to be liked. Abacha was different.

Almost immediately, it became apparent that he was a sadist, psychopath and control freak. He took pleasure in humiliating, hurting and killing people. He had no conscience and never expressed remorse or guilt. He never listened to advice or reason. He had no real friends and hardly ever left his presidential

When he sentenced Ken Saro-Wiwa - the Ogoni writer and activist - to death after a kangaroo court irreverent, arrogant and uncrush-



The late Nigerian leader Sani Abacha

Africans often (unreasonably, in my his nasty little face on it. opinion) resent "imperialistic" and 'sanctimonious" interventions from Europeans.

But this wasn't just a case of a whole bunch of patronising white folk telling Abacha what to do. Other African leaders condemned him. Nelson Mandela - a black icon begged him to reconsider the terrible fate he planned for Ken.

Abacha was unmoved. While Mandela and other leaders were debating the issue at the Commonwealth Conference in New Zealand, Abacha hanged Ken, who had not been allowed to appeal against his

Abacha also ignored the Pope's request for the release of political prisoners. No wonder some people see his demise as his punishment from the Almighty.

Abacha did something no other Nigerian dictator has ever wanted to do. He frightened the hell out of Nigerians, who are notoriously noisy,

hearing, the world was shocked. able. He made us wear badges with When I went home at Christmas.

everybody was talking about him in hushed tones. Critics looked over their shoulders nervously. Many gushed about the Great Leader's magnificence, refusing to meet your eye as they lied through their teeth.

It was like living in Big Brotherland. Now that he's dead, we are like delirious victims of post-dictator syndrome. Street vendors are giving away food for nothing. We have been holding our breaths for too long. Now we can exhale, with enormous relief, and echo the words of Martin Luther King: "Free at last, free at last, thank God we are free at last."

At long last, we've got our country back. Of course, utter chaos may ensue. And maybe Abacha's successor will not be a barrel of

But I stubborniy maintain, nobodu could be as bad as Abacha. And I look forward to a brighter future for

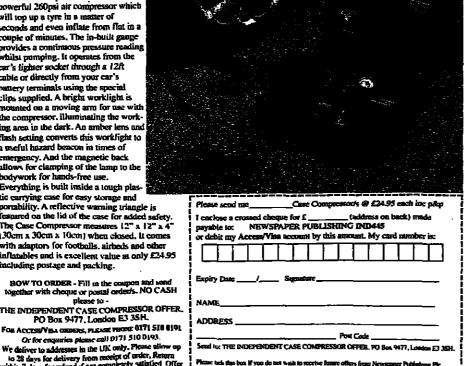
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Can care and custody be compatible?

IT IS timely to be asking the question "Can care and custody be compatible?"

There is certainly plenty of vidence that, too often, custody has resulted in a lack of care and failed to change young offenders' behaviour or attend to their development needs. But there have often been gross failures in noncustodial residential care.

Locking young people up does not in itself produce unsatisfactory regimes. There are Young Offender Institutions (YOIs) and local authority secure facilities where good work has gone on. What needs to be considered are the policies and structures that are likely to produce more constructive regimes than exist now.

The courts need to have powers to deal with the most serious and persistent young offenders, include the option of remanding and sentencing them to a secure placement.

But the time spent by a young person in such placements should not be an end in itself. It protects the public, but the fundamental aim of detaining a young offender, as

with a community sentence, should be to prevent offending in the long term, and the Government has made this aim specific in the Crime and Disorder Bill

The Bill will provide courts with appropriate remand and sentencing powers to deal with the most serious and persistent young offenders. We should not delude ourselves; there are a significant number of young offenders who need to be detained. The number of offenders aged 15-17 sentenced by the courts to YOIs went up by a third between 1996 and 1997. This was the result of a large number of individual decisions that no other sentence was appropriate.

The Government made clear in its White Paper "No More Excuses" its belief that the present arrangements for providing and managing secure accommodation for juveniles are inefficient, incoherent and in need of re-

Despite the efforts of staff in many establishments there is little positive to say about the present arrangements for youth custody as a whole.



Extract from a speech yesterday by the Home Secretary's Senior Policy Adviser to the National Children's Bureau

Regime standards are inconsistent. Costs vary considerably. Resources are inconsistently spread. Young offenders convicted of serious offences may find themselves accommodated in a local au-

thority secure unit at a cost of light of the Comprehensive £2,500 a week each. Those sentenced to detection and training for lesser offences are not eligible for this service and are accommodated in Prison Service establishments at a cost of £400 a week. The Home Secretary's Task Force on Youth Justice, of which I am chair has argued for these inconsistencies to be addressed. The Government may well

ask the Youth Justice Board to work with it in considering alternatives to the current range of provision of secure accommodation, and in particular whether there is a role for accommodation that offers a level of security somewhere between that of current secure provision and a non-secure children's home. This suggestion has been made by the Task Force whose members believe that there may be mileage in reexamining the security aspects of detention to see whether some current levels of security are

appropriate. The Government will make clear fairly soon how it intends to move forward in the

Spending Review. In the meantime, however, there are already some substantial legislative developments in hand which will mean considerable changes in the way that young offenders are detained in future. These should ensure that there is far more emphasis on tackling the problem of offending behaviour, bearing in mind the young person's developmental needs and improving the through-care planning of

their detention and release

into the community.

I hope you will have noticed that I have managed so far without once using the terms "custody" or "custodial". The Task Force members have seen these terms as indicative of a non-developmental approach to young offenders, with overtones of warehousing. That is why we recommend to ministers the alternative terminology of detention and training which we hope will more usefully capture the spirit of what is intended in the future. We are detaining in order to train. That should be our approach.

AND THE PERSON NAMED IN

Gordon is not up to his job



LIVINGSTONE

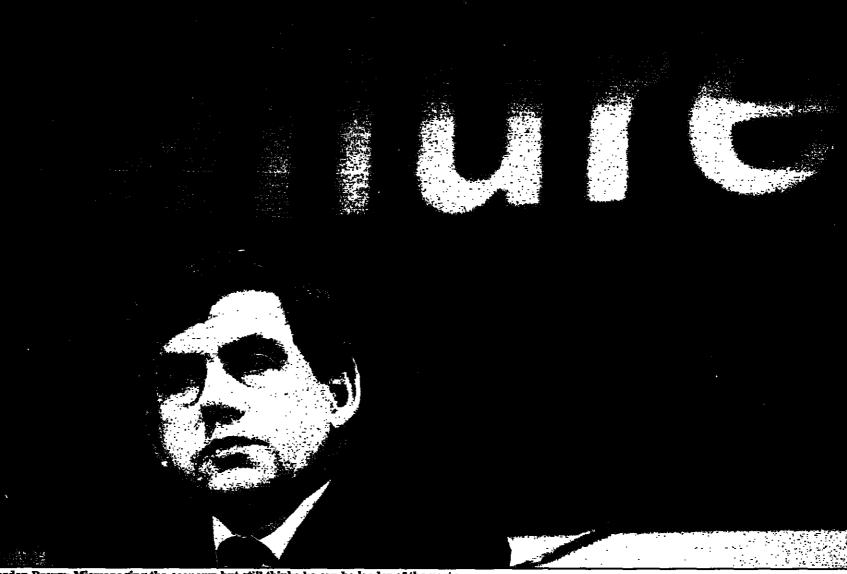
Britain is now heading towards a recession entirely of Gordon's making ... Quite clearly, he is not on top of macroeconomic policy

ANYBODY READING the Sunday papers would have been in no doubt about the imminence of Gordon Brown's first Cabinet reshuffle. We were told that he is actively blocking the promotion of Peter Mandelson to the Cabinet, and assured that he has saved Nick Brown from demotion from the post of chief whip and may even have secured the retention of Harriet Harman's services. References to Tony Blair were little more than walk-on roles in this unfolding drama of how Gordon is reconstructing the Government

Nor is Gordon merely concerned with reshuffling his Government. Well-placed sources assured us that he is intervening firmly to ensure that the minimum wage does not apply to the young and has slapped down Margaret Beckett's determination to endorse the low pay commission's recommendation of £3.60 an hour. Apparently Gordon feels this is too generous, and he is determined that nothing should damage the implementation of his fair deal welfare to work proposals. Clearly Tony Blair must have been holidaying in Ireland recently, as he didn't feature in this great drama of the minimum wage, according to sources close to the Chancellor.

Over the last 12 months, political commentators and senior civil servants have frequently referred to the quite unique power base of this Chancellor. There is certainly no precedent in recent times for a chancellor wielding such disproportionate power. There was certainly no such situation during the Second World War, when Winston Churchill excluded the chancellor from his war cabinet on the grounds that the chancellor's job was simply to find the money to give expression to the decisions it made. How some Cabinet members must wish such a situation prevailed today, as they struggle to defend their budgets in

the public spending review. The source of this unique balance of power within the Government arises from the days immediately following the death of John Smith. Contrary to his expectations Gordon awoke on the day following John Smith's death to see that every opinion poll



Gordon Brown; Mismanaging the economy but still thinks he can be leader of the party

showed Tony Blair comfortably ahead of all other contenders as the public's choice for leader. The senior partner of Labour's "golden boys" was still recovering from Britain's eviction from the ERM. Gordon, as Shadow Chancellor, had refused to call for devaluation throughout the summer of 1992 and had even published an article rejecting devaluation on the very morning of the ERM débacle.

Coupled with a series of brutal internal party rows about Labour's previous public spending commitments, in which Gordon had bludgeoned the reluctant Shadow Cabinet into accepting the slaughter of many of Labour's most deeply felt commitments, the leadership contest could not have come at a worse possible time. Gordon's popularity was at its lowest ebb.

The rest of this story has been well-rehearsed, with Gordon reluctantly agreeing to drop out of the contest in Tony's favour, but still convinced that he could have won if he had gone ahead. What causes the Labour Party its current problems at the top is the circumstances in which Gordon withdrew, at the famous meeting in Islington's Granita restaurant.

The terms of Gordon's withdrawal were formally committed to writing in a memorandum subsequently agreed between their staffs. Under the terms of this agreement Gordon was to be left in control of economic

It was a major error of judgement on Tony Blair's part to strike such an agree-

ment. There were no circumstances in which Gordon could have won, and Tony did not need to agree the delegation of economic policy. I suspect that Tony's motivation was unduly influenced by consideration for Gordon's feelings: That's all very nice, of course, but the Government can have only one Prime Minister and the conduct of economic policy is so central to the success of any government that the Prime Minister has to have prime direction of economic

Of course, this would largely be a matter of idle gossip if economic policy were going well. Unfortunately, Gordon's economic misjudgements are the major factor threatening our chance of gaining a second term in office. Any Labour government depends on creating a strong manufacturing sector, capable of providing work for its supporters and exports to sustain our balance of trade. Yet Gordon has pursued a policy of subservience to the interests of the financial sector of which Norman Lamont or Nigel Lawson would have been proud.

The Bank of England having been granted independence to set interest rates, there was only one way to influence the Bank to reduce interest rates and create favourable conditions for investment. This was through a package of tax increases aimed at damping down the overheated consumer demand we inherited from Ken Clarke's pre-election boom.

Instead Gordon chose a package of tax increases that leave consumer spending

unscathed and will, if anything, further depress our already miserable rate of investment. The City is, of course, delighted Interest rates have increased, thus guaranteeing big bonuses in the City. The pound has soared, which means that we'll all have wonderfully cheap foreign holidays. But, sadly, many workers will return home to find that they have been laid off because their firm can no longer export goods in these circumstances.

An insight into Gordon's subservience to the City comes from an examination of the credentials of those he has appointed to the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England. How on earth a Labour chancellor could feel that a former CIA employee would be of value in pursuing Labour's wider agenda on the MPC is a matter that "passeth all understanding". In all his other appointments he has chosen inflation hawks from the academic world, none of whom has ever run a company or sold anything in his life. It beggars belief that a people even more reactionary than the professional central bankers such as Eddie George and his subordinates, who have so far tried to moderate the interest-rate knee-jerk responses of Gordon's appointees.

The end result of this charade is that Britain is now heading towards an unnecessary recession entirely of Gordon's making. If he had followed the advice of others and damped down consumer spending in his first mini-budget, we could have seen a slow-down in growth and opened the way for major reductions in interest rates which would have been the spur to a long period of investment-led growth in the runup to the next election.

The Labour Party and those who depend on us would be prepared to display an amused tolerance of Gordon's long-term campaign to succeed Tony Blair, if he were getting the economy right. If Gordon wants to waste his own money entertaining trade union and Labour Party members at receptions in No 11 in an attempt to build support for a leadership election which may be 20 years away, then that is purely a matter for him. But, quite clearly. Gordon is not on top of macro-economic policy

No one denies that Gordon is a man of immense talent and ability, but his particular skill is an attention to detail. The scale of involvement he has shown in the welfare to work programme is wholly admirable, and typical of his workaholic nature. But these are the skills which would equip him to be a brilliant secretary of state for education or social security. A Chancellor needs to be able to grasp the grand picture, to have an almost instinctive feel for the huge sweep of movements in the global economy. In the coming Cabinet reshuffle the one move that most urgently needs to be made is the one that Tony Blair's bizarre prenuptial agreement at Granita prevents him from doing: moving his Chancellor to another job.

RIGHT OF REPLY

MICK JAGGER

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The decision to cancel concerts was forced on us, says the lead singer of the Rolling Stones

WE ARE very disappointed to have to postpone our British concerts. But following the decision to change the tax laws retrospectively and tax Britons who spend most of the year out of the country, we would have run our entire European tour at a considerable loss. I should stress that we were not using a tax loophole. The scheme was set up by Denis Healey, a Labour chancellor, and has been in use for two decades. There was nothing clandestine about it and it is used by a wide variety of people working overseas.

Whatever the Treasury says, these changes are being introduced retrospectively. This is highly unusual. The government has every right to change the tax laws but we would have expected the new regulations to come into effect at the end of the tax year, not in the middle.

Our tax adviser said the band and 40 members of the road crew would face a huge tax bill. We offered to play the UK shows for charity but the Revenue rejected the suggestion. So we were forced to make a decision: either Charlie, Ronnie and myself were to swallow an unexpected £12m tax bill, putting the tour into the red, or postpone the dates.

It is not just the band who are affected. Our crew signed up on the basis that their earnings would be free of tax in Britain because they were hardly in the country. Already the manager of an American act has told us they may not hire British technicians because they won't want to work in the UK which is a vital part of any European tour. This was a very difficult decision for us, and it is not a tax protest.

Another man on a white horse

RUSSIA IS in such a mess that even the army does not want a coup d'etat. The commanders might feel more rebellious if they could rely on the forces at their disposal. But the Russian Army is a shambles.

The Chechen volunteers humbled them in the mid-1990s, and Russian generals have shown more enthusiasm for trading weapons on the black market than for fighting. They even sold to the Chechens. Army officers, once the most flamboyant of all castes in the Soviet state hierarchy, now go round in civilian clothes when they are off duty. Demoralisation is complete.

Just one ex-military man, Alexander Lebed, has held his self-respect and the respect of many Russian voters. In 1996 be came a creditable third in the presidential election and is planning to run again when Boris Yeltsin's term of office ends.

Lebed breaks the rules of the world's mass media. He speaks his mind. Indeed, he shoots his mouth off - on one occasion he lauded the achievements of General Pinochet as Chilean dictator. He does not mind contradicting himself. When he was in Afghanistan, he imposed discipline by lining up 11 of his officers and punching each of them in the face.

Lebed has made a virtue out of his devil-may-care style. It is as if a character had leaped from the pages of one of Tolstoy's novels and burst into 20th-

century reality. But there is more to him than meets the eye. When he was put in charge of the XIV Army in Moldova in 1992, he managed to stop conflict between Russians and Moldovans; and in 1996, after Veltsin had bought his support by making him security supremo, Lebed did much to bring peace to Chechnya. Russian voters like Lebed not just be cause he embodies the stereotype of the bluff ex-soldier but also because he has campaigned to end conflict by ne gotiation and to eliminate corruption.

WEDNESDAY BOOK

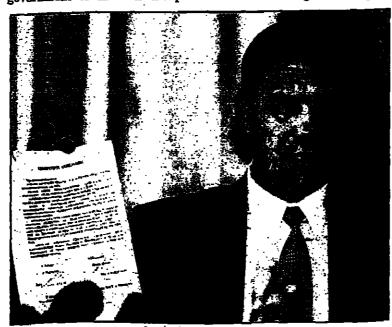
THE GENERAL AGAINST THE KREMLIN BY HAROLD ELLETSON, LITTLE, BROWN, £17.50

Once upon a time, Boris Yeltsin had the same image, and it did not take a genius to guess that he would get rid of Lebed as soon as his usefulness faded. The fact that the Chechen negotiators trusted Lebed more than Yeltsin made matters worse. And so the President, having hured his rival into complacency by implying that Lebed was his preferred successor, suddenly removed him from his

Yeltsin's excuse was that Lebed could not function as a member of a government team. Thus the pot sacked the kettle. But Lebed has responded by standing successfully, in April this year, for the leadership of the

Krasnoyarsk regional administration. This lively and informative book puts the case for Lebed, using evidence from recent interviews with prominent Russian politicians.

Harold Elletson, Conservative MP for Blackpool North until last year, argues that Russia has been badly misruled in the past decade. One of the author's idiosyncrasies is his fondness for the plotters who conspired against Gorbachev in the August 1991 coup. He



Alexander Lebed has held his self-respect.

even obtained an interview with none other than the former Vice-President of the USSR, Gennadi Yanaev, the drunkard whose nervous TV performance at the beginning of the coup stiffened resistance to the plotters. Why does Elletson warm to Yanaev? Perhaps there is some fellow feeling be-

tween the two ousted conservatives. Yet Elletson has undoubtedly uncovered significant testimony about the events of August 1991, in the most intriguing part of his book. He shows that Lebed, who had operational duties in Moscow at the time, did little to sustain Gorbachev in power. The book's underlying theme is that Gorbachev and Yeltsin are political tricksters and that the time has come for Lebed to

pull the country into shape. But why trust the General? Even the author concedes that Alexander Lebed took money and advice from Yeltsin's aides in the 1996 election while claiming to be an independent. Lebed might speak plainly, but he does not always tell the truth. He has also picked up some dubious associates: among them is Yeltsin's former chief bodyguard and drinking partner Alexander Korzhakov, notorious for wishing to cancel the 1996 election in case Yeltsin did not will.

Harold Elletson defends Lebed as a person with whom the West might do business. But many questions are left unanswered, and even unasked, in the course of his book. The West has a sorry record of backing losers, including charlatans, in Russia. The game of picking winners is a gamble even for Russian voters. But it is their game to play. Then it will at least be their fault if they lose.

ROBERT SERVICE

The reviewer is Professor of Russian History and Politics in London University. His Penguin History of Twentieth-Century Russia' will appear in paperback in July.

WEDNESDAY POEM

EVERYTHING CHANGES

BY BERTOLT BRECHT, IN A VERSION BY CICELY HERBERT

Everything changes. We

plant trees for those born later but what's happened has happened and poisons poured into

the seas cannot be drained out again.

What's happened has happened Poisons poured into the

cannot be drained out again, but everything changes. We plant

trees for those born later. Bargains, bargains in and out of reason!

Our poems today and tomorrow come from the latest batch of Poems on the Underground. The 15 poems by major modern European poets, which will appear in London tube carriages throughout June and July, mark the British presidency of the European Union.

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General Sani Abacha

FEW NIGERIANS, and the many people involved in Commonwealth or international affairs and in human rights movements, remained indifferent to the impression made on them by General Sani Abacha, Nigeria's seventh military head of state.

At one end of the spectrum of political perception he recalled the unspeakable African shame that was Idi Amin or the bogeyman that was Sese Soko Mobutu. At the other extreme, while lacking the patent honesty and "Good Old Jack" bonhomie of the earlier General Gowon or the breathtaking wizardry in selling the past of his immediate predecessor, General Ibrahim Bahangida, Abacha represented the strong leader who alone might restore an unruly and divided Nigeria to a level of political stability and economic sustainability consistent with its expectations and potential on the continent

His annus horribilis was 1995. when the brutal execution of the political activist and acclaimed writer Ken Saro-Wiwa, on the eve of the meeting of Commonwealth Heads of Government (CHOGM) in New Zealand, generated a highly condemnatory reaction to the ugly lack of human rights in Nigeria. It was abruptly and uniquely suspended from the Commonwealth, a stigma revisited by CHOGM when it reassembled in Edinburgh in October 1997 and reiterated its condemnation of the Abacha regime.

Sani Abacha was born in 1943 in a Hausa-Fulani quarter in Kano to a merchant family of Kanuri descent, and educated at Kano Provincial Secondary School from 1957 to 1962. Like so many of his able and ambitious peers, he joined the army. It was a time when the younger generation of educated Nigerians saw the military as offering a more rapid route to elite status than the civil service or business. Passing out of the Nigerian Military Training Centre at Kaduna in 1963, he was sent to the UK for officer cadet training at Mons. He was also commissioned in 1963.

Thereafter promotion was as regular as Aldershot drill parades: to lieutenant in 1966, to captain one year and then to major two years later, with a pause of seven years in the rank of colonel until he was made brigadier in 1989.

Abacha had just turned 40 when he was promoted general. Too junior to have seen much command service in the Biafran War (1967-70), he improved his military qualifications by attending the School of Infantry at Staff College at Jaji in 1976, and in scribe the seemingly aimless tran-1981 the prestigious Nigerian Institute of Political Studies (NIPS) at Kuru. Finally, he attended the US Senior International Defense Course at Monterey, California.

Every inch the professional and

promising soldier, in his 25 years of military service Abacha was to hold at one time or another all the influential posts in the Nigerian army from GSO and Brigade Commander to the higher echelons of AQMG, Director of Army Training, GOC 2nd Me-

chanical Division, and Chief of Staff. But, as Nigerians came to realise in 1983, there was more to this uncharismatic and reserved young officer than his outward façade of single-minded professionalism. When General Buhari overthrew the ill-fated Second Republic of Shehu Shagari in December 1983, it was Abacha who announced the Buhari coup over the radio in words that spoke far more than they said: "I. Brigadler Sani Abacha, . . ." He was appointed to the ruling Supreme

Military Council.

interim national government (ING) headed by the businessman Ernest Shonekan. To the surprise of many Abacha was given a post as Minister of Defence in the new administration. After less than a hundred days in

office, Shonekan suddenly announced his resignation on 17 November. It was to Sani Abacha that he transferred power, thereby confirming the widespread belief that not only was this the third coup d'étot masterminded by Abacha, but that this enigmatic éminence grise had in reality been the power behind the ING ever since it had taken office.

On the very next day Abacha dismantled all the organs of state so elaborately created during the Transition era. He replaced the civilian governors with military administrators. Conventionally for incoming

Abacha had a brutal contempt for democracy at home and a miserable record on human rights. It must be in his legacy rather than in his leadership that the true worth of Nigeria under its ninth head of state in 38 years will in the end be revealed

West African coups that seemed to draw strength from the public holiday paralysis of the Christmas/New Year shut-down, Abacha was once again deeply involved, this time in the overthrow of General Buhari and the coming to power of General Babangida. He was rewarded by promotion to Major-General, appointment as Army Chief of Staff, and membership of the new Armed Forces Ruling Council.

Emerging unscathed from Babangida's officers' purge of late 1989, Abacha was to play an important role in scotching the dangerous mutiny, with its overtones of ethnic secessionism, led by Major Orkar in Lagos in April 1990. The Head of State himself narrowly escaped sassination.

Abacha's preference for the shadows rather than the limelight meant that he was not a high-profile figure in the Babangida regime. Following Bahangida's serially postponed handover dates (leading one eminent Warminster in 1971, the Nigerian Nigerianist scholar punningly to desition programme as "Transition Without End"), and in the aftermath of the débacle of the so-called Abiola general election of July 1993, Babangida was eventually induced to hand over the administration to an

Two years on, in another of those military heads of state, he declared that it was his intention to hand power back to an elected civilian government as soon as practicable.

To this end he promised to call a conference to determine the country's constitutional future. He then effectively restored the 1979 constitution. destroying at a stroke the carefully crafted constitution of the putative Third Republic, already promulgated in 1989 for introduction in 1992.

If Abacha had up to then played an influential but background role. he now moved centre-stage, internationally as well as internally. Officers loyal to General Babangida were weeded out and compulsorily retired, in 1993 and again in another purge of 1995. Abacha even went so far as to place under arrest his internationally respected predecessor Head of State (1976-79), General Obansanjo.

A date for return to civilian rule was set, 1 October 1998, the anniversary of Nigeria's independence in 1960. If the international community was shocked at the prospect of yet another three years of military rule in undemocratic Nigeria, it was incensed by Abacha's execution of Ogoni leaders in November 1995.

Appalled by the deterioration of human rights in Nigeria, the Commonwealth Heads of Government

Meeting taking place in Auckland, New Zealand, approved the unprecedented step of suspending Nigeria (expulsion is not in their remit) from the Commonwealth. In the months that followed Canada replaced President Mandela as the

ading critic of Abacha's Nigeria. The ad hoc Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG) did not find its mission an easy one, and African members perceptibly began to close ranks behind Nigeria and accept the transition programme for 1998. At the same time, there was a movement within Nigeria (whether inspired or genuinely grassroots) to rsuade Abacha either to stand for Presidential office in 1998 - the "from uniform to agbada" model of Mobutu and Rawlings - or to prolong his present military rule.

Reluctant to travel much, whether inside or outside Nigeria, Abacha was one of the personally lessen known Nigerian Heads of State. In contrast, among Nigeria's First Ladies, his wife, Maryam Jiddah, whom he married in 1965, adopted an unusually high profile in public affairs and international conferences. She initiated Nigeria's Family Support Programme, and went on to earn the sobriquet of "The Crusading First Lady" for her role in chairing in 1997 the first summit of Africa's First Ladies.

The eventual success of ECO-MOG, the Economic Community's Monitoring Group (in the event, a major military force), in bringing peace to war-torn Liberia, was followed earlier this year by Abacha ordering his troops into Sierra Leone to help restore the ousted President Kabbah, ironically presenting General Abacha as upholding military intervention in the name of democracy which he significantly failed to practice at home.

Rumours of Abacha's serious illness first circulated in September 1997 but they were quickly denied. His brutal contempt for democracy at home, combined with his deepening isolation on the international scene on account of his miserable record on human rights, meant that despite the campaign for him to stand for the presidency in 1998, Abacha died with a low level of popularity ratings to his credit. It must be in his legacy rather than in his leadership that the true worth of Nigeria under its ninth head of state in 38 years will in the end be revealed.

Anthony Kirk-Greene

Sani Abacha, soldier and head of state: born Kano, Nigeria 20 September 1943; President of Nigeria and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces 1993-98; married 1965 Maryam Jiddah (nine children, and one son deceased); died Abuja



Cardinal Agostino Casaroli

CARDINAL AGOSTINO Casaroli was the Vatican's top diplomat for more than a decade and, despite being in the mould of Pope Paul VI, spent a further decade, from 1979 to 1990, as Secretary of State under the very different Pope John Paul II. Casaroli's famed long view led him to forge controversial agreements with Eastern European governments which he considered necessary to ensure the Catholic Church's survival under repressive regimes (not so much a modus vivendi as a modus non moriendi, he once ironically put it).

But these agreements were fiercely opposed by those who saw him as selling out to the Communist regimes and he earned the nickname "Casaroli the Communist". Casaroli rejected charges that he was prepared to forge such agreements at any price as "unjust, even slanderous". As times changed he was dubbed "Monsignor Perestroika" by the Italian media.

Although, in the wake of Pope Paul's funerai in 1978, Casaroli privately assured the Polish religious affairs minister that the election of a new pope would not mean a change in the Vatican's Ostpolitik, Cardinal Karol Wojtyla's election as Pope John Paul II must have come as a shock. But the new Pope's endorsement of Casaroli - viewed by many in the Polish Church as a traitor for negotiating with the Com-munists - heralded an unlikely partnership between the impulsive pope and the cautious diplomat.

Pope John Paul confirmed Casaroli as Secretary of the Council for the Public Affairs of the Church, the Vatican's "foreign ministry". In April 1979 he appointed him Secretary of State (in effect prime minister) to replace the recently deceased Cardinal Jean Villot. Casaroli became a cardinal in the Pope's first

consistory two months later. Pope John Paul overturned the



cautious Vatican policy, welcoming contacts with Communist regimes while more aggressively championing the Church's rights. Casaroli soon adapted to the new Vatican regime and became a trusted colleague of the Pope, especially in the attempt to fend off a Soviet crackdown in Poland and the suppression of the Solidarity trade union. During the tense stand-off in 1980, the Pope chose Casaroli to act as his envoy in secret meetings with Kremlin officials to keep lines of communication open.

In the wake of the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul in May 1981, Casaroli kept the Vatican running smoothly. In the wake of the scandals surrounding the Vatican Bank, Casaroli played a crucial be-

hind-the-scenes role restoring the Vatican's credibility in financial matters. A duty Casaroli found a trial was accompanying the Pope on his frequent foreign travels, taking him away from what he considered more useful work at his desk.

Despite his certain reservations. Casaroli was the messenger when the Pope moved against what he saw as the untrustworthy Jesuits in October 1981. The Jesuit General Pedro Arrupe had just suffered a stroke and the Pope stepped in to halt the election of a successor and impose his own personal delegate to run the order. Casaroli delivered the Pope's letter in person to the paralysed Arrupe as he lay in bed at the Jesuit Curia, reducing the sick man to tears.

But Casaroli's triumphs came in the international arena. The immense political changes in Eastern Europe and above all in Moscow saw Casaroli vindicated. In 1988 Pope John Paul chose him to head the Vatican delegation to the Russian Orthodox Church's celebrations of the Millennium of Christianity, armed with a six-page letter from the Pope to the Soviet leader. After a four-day wait in a Moscow hotel, Casaroli was taken the short ride to the Kremlin in a KGB car to hand over the letter to Mikhail Gorbachev and foreign minister Eduard Shevardnadze. They had a cordial discussion, although it would be more than a year

before the Pope got his reply.

This rapprochement allowed Casaroli to crown his career with the historic meeting between Pope John Paul and Gorbachev in the Vatican on 1 December 1989, the first between a pope and a Communist Party general secretary. Casaroli stepped down as Secretary of State

exactly one year after the meeting. Casaroli was an advocate of the Holy See, using its diplomatic position to the full. At his initiative the Vatican

played a full part in the 1975 Helsin-ki Conference, insisting that firm wording be inserted on human rights and religious freedom, took part in nuclear disarmament negotiations and even brokered an agreement between Chile and Argentina over the

Beagle Channel territorial dispute. Born a tailor's son in northern Italy, Casaroli followed a family tradition of entering the priesthood. After seminary studies in Bedonia and Pi-

He was appointed Secretary of the Congregation for Extraordinary Ecclesiastical Affairs (shortly to be renamed the Council for the Public Affairs of the Church) in July 1967 and was consecrated archbishop by Pope Paul in St Peter's the same month.

Casaroli's expertise on Eastern

was brought in

conflict and mistrust, a policy con-

timued by Pope Paul VI, and Casaroli

He earned the nickname 'Casaroli the Communist'. As times changed, he was dubbed 'Monsignor Perestroika' . . . He would later joke of his rise up the Vatican ladder, 'Promotion came by the natural process of being there and growing older'

enrolled in the Vatican's élite diplomatic school, the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy. He was ordained priest in May 1937 and in 1940 entered the Vatican's Secretariat of State, initially as an archivist. He held a number of Vatican posts entailing foreign travel and from 1958 to 1961 was Professor of Diplomatic Style at the Ecclesiastical Academy.

Pope John XXIII then appointed him Under-Secretary of the Congregation for Extraordinary Ecclesiastical Affairs (he would later joke of his rise up the Vatican ladder. "Promotion to the rank of Under-Secretary came by the natural process of being there and growing older"). Pope John embarked on a new policy of openness towards the

acenza he went to Rome in 1936 and Europe was built up with a series of visits in an often painstaking series of negotiations, which he saw as the best way to guarantee the Church's continued public existence in an era of restriction and persecution. He guided the Vatican towards resumption of ties with Hungary, Czechoslovakia and the Pope's native Poland.

> He sought to achieve minimal guarantees for churches under Communist governments. He began negotiations with Hungary in 1963 and with Yugoslavia the following year. But progress against the Marxist bureaucrats was slow. In 1964 he signed a partial accord between the Vatican and Hungary and with Yugoslavia in 1966. He achieved the restoration of full relations with Yugoslavia in 1970.

Communist regimes after years of Secret negotiations in Prague in 1966 got bogged down as Czechoslovakia - one of the most restrictive countries for the Catholic Church resisted any concessions.

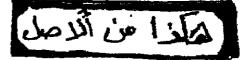
In 1971 Casaroli became the first senior Vatican personality to pay an official visit to the Soviet Union, using the excuse of putting the Vatican's signature on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to force a meeting with officials of the Council for Religious Affairs, the Soviet government body that controlled religious groups. Casaroli's pleas for greater rights for Catholics in the Soviet Union fell on suspicious and deaf ears, but he was upbeat: "After 50 years of monologue we have progressed to dialogue.'

Casaroli was calm but resolute in negotiations, with the necessary infinite patience. Recently revealed records of his meetings with Communist bureaucrats show him doggedly refusing to be sidetracked into meaningless generalities and politely but insistently returning to issues of substance.

Aware that his life within the Vatican walls and on diplomatic missions was sheltered, Casaroli made time to escape the enclosed world. He made regular pastoral visits to prisoners in the Casal del Marmo youth reformatory near Rome.

Despite his image as a selfeffacing curial bureaucrat, Casaroli was friendly and approachable with an inner ebullience. He was a master of the self-deprecating remark. **Felix Corley**

Agostino Casaroli, priest and diplomat: born Castel Giovanni, Piacenza, Italy 24 November 1914; ordained priest 1937, archbishop 1967, cardinal 1979; Secretary of the Council for the Public Affairs of the Catholic Church 1967-79, Secretary of State to Pope John Paul II 1979 90; died Rome 9 June 1998.



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Marion Milner

MARION MILNER was a prominent the growth of the capacities of imagiindependent psychoanalyst and writer nation and symbolisation. independent psychoanalyst and writer.

She was trained as a psychologist, and worked in industry and in schools. Her interest in the unconscious grew from personal sense of meaning. She sense of dissatisfaction; she kept a diary in which she recorded as honestly as she could her stream of

She discovered by this method aspects of herself which she had previously denied - pettiness, vanity fear and anger. She published a trio of books in which she revealed these feelings and discoveries. The first of these, A Life of One's Own (1934), is a particularly good introduction to her thinking and to the ways in which one person's self-deceptions were brought

One of her central interests was the "Suppressed Madness of Sane Men". the title of a collection of papers pub-lished in 1987. This madness is, in her view, a matter of being cut off from the instincts and the body. It was her contention that the hard-won mental and emotional achievements of separation of self from other, of feelings from things, of symbols from things symbolised - can be overvalued.

For many reasons we may cling to the raft of logical thinking in fear of the rough seas of imagination. In Freud's terms, secondary process thinking seems to drive out primary process. One reason for such an absolute solution would be having a mother who is emotionally ill: "such a human environment forces the child into a desperate clinging to the phase of thinking that . . . distinguishes between the 'me and the 'not-me', because this is the only protection against an impossible confusion between their own and their parents' problem."

Psychoanalysis, Milner argued, is one area where such one sidedness may be undone. It offers a space in which it is safe to be absent-minded and illogical; the transference itself involves illusion, and in fostering and working on this illusion, the analyst enables the over-sane person to allow something to be what it is and be another thing. "The recurrent merging with the object through the blurring of boundaries . . . must precede the creation of symbols."

She stressed the healthy aspect of such regressions, and the need for constant oscillations between such states of mind and the more logical, differentiating, practical, common-sense states which are also of course essential. The true self can be restored by something she often regretted in her-den, saying she hadn't been on a swing

described this process as the alchemy which transmutes base metal into gold. This requires a sacrifice of the old self and a plunge into emptiness, from which one develops a trust that, out of the unconscious, something new and valuable can grow. These lines of thought led on to other interests of Milner's - the role of art and poetry in the life of the mind, and mysticism.

She was also a talented painter, and

Milner's style was entirely hers. Every paragraph had her own stamp on it; she wrote in long sentences, letting thoughts develop and ramifu almost as if she were speaking an inner dialogue aloud

in On Not Being Able to Paint (1950) she wrote an important book on creativity and on some of the forces that prevent it. As with so much of her writing, she was not afraid to reveal herself. Her authorial voice was itself an instance of her view that "the internal gesture needed is to stand aside". The Honds of the Living God (1969), an account of a 20-year analysis, also focused on drawings and doodles, this time her patients'.

Milner's style was entirely hers. Every paragraph had her own stamp on it; she wrote in long sentences, letting thoughts develop and ramify almost as if she were speaking an inner dialogue aloud. At times the tone of what she wrote could move close to the ecstatic - a characteristic that may



the deeper levels of her anger.

Right to the end of her life she retained a psychoanalytic attitude to herself and others, wondering if burst blood vessels in her eye a year or so ago were the result of unconscious anger. She wished she had lived late enough to benefit from the more sophisticated understandings of modern psychoanalysis. But she was also aware of the limits of psychoanalysis, especially in regard to the body.

Her last years were, physically, a struggle against increasing deafness, blindness and wobbliness; but her mind was wonderfully alive till the very end, her warmth, curiosity, humour and interest in other people intact. At the age of 93, she asked me have been, in part, an expression of to help her on to the swing in our gar-

and was always elegant, in her idiosyncratic, many-layered, textured and

harmonious way.

It was a tremendous privilege and enrichment to be one of her friends. Our loss will be a little mitigated by the fact that there is another book to come: Bothered by Alligators will be an analysis of herself as a mother through her study of the illustrated story-book of her son, John, which he made when he was seven. Marion Milner had more or less finished this final act of love and reparation, and was, perhaps, ready to die. Michael Brearley

Nina Marion Blackett, training analyst, artist and author: born London 1 February 1900; married 1927 Dennis Milner (died 1954; two sons); died London 29 May 1998.

SCIENCE NOTES JOHN TURNEY

The myth of Frankenstein

OUR CHILDREN learn that professors are mad around the time they start reading the Beano, imbibing a tradition that goes back to the alchemists. But the 19th century gave us the most memorable mad scientist of all, Victor Frankenstein.

Mary Shelley's laboratory-bound obsessive, first introduced to agreeably scandalised readers in 1818, had one thing in common with his successors. He was a primitive biologist. And though the 20th century has spawned enough powercrazed physicists to keep Dr Strangelove company, our favourite scary scientists still tend to be test-tube haby makers. genetic engineers and closet cloners. Biology evokes our deepest

ambivalence about the scientific project. We would love to control life, and finally break the bounds of the clumsily designed bodies and minds which evolution built. yet the stronger our desire to overcome our imperfections, the greater our dread of real choices about our future make-up. This double-bind at the heart of Mary

Shelley's novel Frankenstein has spawned endless retellings, which make it one of our most resonant modern myths. It is a myth that modern biologists hate.

Those who splice genes and fertilise eggs in petri dishes believe that the endurance of Frankenstein is due to second-rate writers pandering to public fears and perpetuating cheap stereotypes. They are wrong. The myth is not a straightforward anti-science story. Our sympathies are often drawn to the good doctor's creation, originally dubbed the "creature", but, since Boris Karloff's stunning screen portrayal in the Thirties, seen as Frankenstein's "monster". Yet we are engaged by the creator, too. There is something admirable about Victor Frankenstein in the novel, about "Henry' Frankenstein in James Whale's classic Thirties films – even to Peter Cushing's ruthless Baron Frankenstein in Hammer's Fifties and Sixties films. The myth expresses an ambivalence about science that colours our view of flesh-andblood biologists. But it grips us, to the extent that we share their motives.

This is one reason why the myth has so often been useful when people have struggled to make sense of real biology. Frankenstein loomed large in Britain

WHERE ARRANGEMENTS for

the suspension of excise duty

on goods held in bond in the

United Kingdom were broken

by the use of fraudulent docu-

mentation, duty immediately

became chargeable in the

The appellant had a legiti-

mate business trading as "Beer

Lovers" in Calais. The essential

case against him was that, in the

course of his business, he had

arranged for spirits on which

United Kingdom.



Awful warning: Frankenstein's monster

when Victorian physiologists took up vivisection, and in the US when the embryologist Jacques Loeb claimed, at the turn of this century, that artificial fertilisation of sea-urchin eggs meant that laboratory-created life was imminent. The story was often used by commentators on the "biological revolution" of the Sixties, in the days of the Pill, heart transplants, mind-bending drugs, the cracking of the genetic code. It is now invoked to express our concerns about cloned sheep and designer babies.

However, as such concerns become real rather than fictional, a 200-year-old myth, however artfully reworked, is a poor grounding for debate. It can too easily be used to suggest that we must accept all science, or none. Recently, scientists have been quick to use it in this way, to raise the rhetorical stakes in defence, for example, of experiments with embryos

This won't do. Neither will reference to Frankenstein as an awful warning by opponents of some project or other. Control of life has moved from being a novelist's notion to the objective of a whole set of real-world technologies. We did ask for them. Our desire, it appears, outweighs our dread. But we will still strive to curb some applications of the life science while encouraging others. For that effort, perhaps, we need new stories, posing more subtle choices.

Jon Turney is author of Frankenstein's Footsteps: science, genetics and popular culture' (Yale University Press, £19.99)

GAZETTE

stant, painter, 1845; André

Derain, painter, 1880; Al

Dubin, lyricist, 1891; Freder-

ick Loewe, composer, 1901;

Robert Still, composer, 1910;

Sir Terence Mervyn Ratti-

gan, playwright, 1911; Judy Garland (Frances Ethel

Gumm), singer and actress.

1922: Ian Robert Maxwell

(Jan Ludvik Hoch), chair-

man, Mirror Group, 1923.

Deaths: Frederick L Bar-

Emperor, 1190; Luis Vaz de

Camões, poet, 1580; George

barossa, Holy Roman

I, King, 1727; Thomas

Louis-Jean-François

Hearne, antiquary, 1735;

Lagrenée, painter, 1805;

André-Marie Ampère, physi-

cist, 1836; Frederick Yeates

Ernest Chausson, composer,

1899: Richard John Seddon,

Huristone, painter, 1869;

statesman, at sea 1906;

Pierre Loti (Louis-Marie-

Julien Viaud), novelist and

Matteotti, socialist leader,

assassinated 1924; Antonio

Gaudi y Cornet, architect.

1926; Frederick Theodore

Albert Delius, composer,

1934; Spencer Tracy, actor,

Gloucester, 1974. On this

of Salem was hanged in

Massachusetts, 1692; the

day: the first of the witches

first Oxford and Cambridge

was won by Oxford, 1829; the

Crystal Palace at Sydenham

near London was officially

opened, 1854; Wagner's

opera Tristan und Isolde

was first produced, Munich,

founded in the United States

by William Wilson, a broker,

declared war on Britain and

France, 1940; Italy became a

and Dr Robert Smith, a

physician, 1935: Italy

republic, 1946; an earth-

Afghanistan (lasting eight

Princess Margrethe of Den-

mark married Count Henri

days) caused over 2,000

deaths, 1956; Crown

quake in Northern

1865; the Battle of Belleau

Wood ended, 1918; Aico-

holics Anonymous was

Boat Race was rowed, and

1967; Henry, Duke of

naval officer, 1923; Giacomo

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ENGAGEMENTS The Queen visits Sir James Barrie School, London SW8: visits the swimming pool and meets swimmers at the Battersea Technology College, London SW11; inaugurates the closed circuit television system for Wandsworth town centre, at Arding and Hobbs Department Store, London SW11; and, as Patron, Shaftesbury Homes and "Arethusa", visits the Winstanley Road Children's Home, London SW11. The Duke of Edinburgh, President, chairs a meeting of the Royal Mint Advisory Committee at Buckingham Palace; and attends the Scotland versus Brazil World Cup football match at the Stade de France, Paris. The Duke of York visits the Bank of England, London EC2. The Princess Royal, President, British Olympic Association, attends the National Olympic Committee Meeting and the Annual General Meeting at the Café Royal, London W1; and, as Commandant-in-Chief (Ambulance and Nursing Cadets), the Order of St John, gives a reception for Grand Prior Cadets at Buckingham Palace.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; Nijmegen Company Grenadier Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11,30am, band provided by the Coldstream Guards.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, in memorian) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements are charged at £10 a line (VAT extra).

BIRTHDAYS

The Duke of Edinburgh, 77; Mr Brian Baldock, former deputy chairman, Guinness plc, 64; Mr William Barr, former Rector, Exeter College, Oxford, 81; Mr Saul Bellow, writer and Nobel prizewinner, 83; The Right Rev Leslie Brown, former Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, 86; Mr Gordon Burns, television producer and presenter, 56; Sir Bryan Cartledge, former Principal of Linacre College, Oxford, 67; Sir Christopher Collett, former Lord Mayor of London, 67; Mr Peter Crampton. MEP, 66; Mr Robert Dewar. Ambassador to Madagascar. 49; Sir Brinsley Ford, former chairman, National Art Collections Fund, 90; Sir Peter Gibson, a former Lord Justice of Appeal, 64; Mr Graham Carleton Greene, publisher, 62; Sir William Gordon Harris, civil engineer, 86; Mr Guy Harwood, racehorse trainer, 59; Miss June Haver, actress, 71; Sir Arthur Hawkins, former chairman, CEGB, 85; Dr Polly Hill, anthropologist, 84; Mr Lindsay Hoyle MP, 41,Mr Lionel Jeffries, actor, 72; Mr Simon Jenkins, columnist, and former editor of the Times, 55; Sir Geoffrey Otton, former senior civil servant, 71; Mr Thomas Pendry MP, 64; Mr Maurice Sendak, writer and illustrator, 70; Mr Bill Waddington, actor and comedian, 82; Maj-Gen Michael Walsh, former Chief Scout, 71

Births: James Edward Stuart, the Old Pretender, 1688; James Short, optician and astronomer, 1710; Charles Simon Catel, composer, 1773; Clara Anastasia Novello, soprano, 1818; Gustave Courbet, painter, 1819; Sir Edwin Acnold, poet, 1832; Nikolaus August Otto, inventor of the four-stroke internal combustion engine, 1832; Jean Joseph Benjamin Con- de Monpezat, 1967. Today is

ANNIVERSARIES

the Feast Day of St Bardo, St Bogumilus or Theophilus, St Getulius and his Companions, St Ithamar and St Landericus or Landry of Paris.

LECTURES

National Gallery: Christopher Moock, "Masters of Light (i): the Satyr in the Campagna. Dutch Italianate Landscape Painting", 1pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Gracia Lafuente, "Medieval Art and William" Morris", 2.30pm. Tate Gallery: Michael Ricketts, "Warhol and Emotion: trauma", 1pm. British Museum: Carolyn Perry, "Living in Egypt: pharaonic, Mambuk and modern household objects"

Wallace Collection, London W1; Rosalind Savill, "Sèvres Porcelain in the Wallace Collection", 1pm.

DINNERS

Scientific Instrument Makers' Company Sir Ivor Cohen, Master of the Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers, and Lady Cohen, were the hosts at the Company's Annual Banquet held yesterday evening at Mansion House, London EC4. Mr David Howard, Alderman and Sheriff, and his Lady, were the guests of honour Sir Peter Parker, Sir Ivor Cohen and the Senior Warden, Mr Brian Atherton, were the speakers. Air Vice-Marshal J.H. Thompson, Commandant of the RAF College, Cranwell, and Commander L Hugo RN, Captain of HMS Vigilant, also attended.

PAINTER-STAINERS' **COMPANY**

Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, opened the Craft Exhibition of the Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainers held yesterday at Painters' Hall, London EC4.

appointed Assistant

Circuit:
Peter Anthony Stanfield Barrie, Peter Michnel Blair, Richard Bruce Davies Bromilow, Benjamin James Browne QC; Roger Stephen Climie, John Watts Diroor, Martin James Simpson Edmunds, Jonathan Nicholas Crispin Gaisman QC; Susan Edzabeth Jacklin, Timothy Robert Lamb QC; Karol Paul Edward Lasok QC; Stephen Charles Lennart, Nigel James Dominie Lickley, Nicholas Richard Marston; Richard Martin Mawhinney, Jane Elizabeth Mackay Miller, Lorine Morgan; Timothy John Mousies, Alastair Hubert Norris QC; Stewart Patterson; Martin Thomas Picton; Philip Alexander Shepherd, Jonathan Peter Swift; Robin Stewart Tolson; Philip Hugh Wassall; Peter Malcolm Wright.

CHURCH

Resurrection (Manchester): to be NS) Assistant Curate, Burnage St Nicholas Assistant Caraca, Suringle St recisions (same diocese).

The Rev Jonathan Meyrick, Team Rector, Tishury, and Rural Dean of Chalk Sallsbury; to be Residentiary Catoon of Rochester Cathedral (Rochester).

The Rev John Perlan, Vicar, Redbourn Cathedral), to be Vicar, Redbourn (St Albans): to be Vicar, Bedford St Paul (same diocese).

OX Attams: In or vicin; neutro of Paul (same diocese).
The Rev Robin Pettilt, Priest-in-Charge, Charmock Richard, and Pariah Development Officer (Blaciburd): to be also Secretary to the Diocesan Advisory Committee (same diocese).
The Rev Gordon Whitty, Priest-in-Charge, Meir Holy Trinity (Lichfield): to be Priest-in-Charge, Hambury with Neutrorough and Rangemore (same diocese). RESIGNATIONS and RETIREMENTS The Rev John Catley, Vicar, St Annes-

on-the-Sea St Margaret, and Rural Dean of Kirkham (Blockburn): to retire 31 July. The Ray Philips, Chaplain, Win-chester St Cross Hospital with St Faith (Winchester): to retire 31 May. OTHER APPOINTMENTS Dot Hooker, Reader, Kent and Sussex Hospital Trust (Bochester): to be Diocesan Older Persons' Officer (same

Diana Witts, to be Lay Canon of Salisbury Cathedral (Salisbury).

ASSISTANT RECORDERS

The following have been Recorders on the Western

> The Court of Appeal dismissed the appellant's appeal against conviction of four counts of being knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of excise duty contrary to section 170(2) of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1987. He had also been convicted of one offence of causing a false declaration to be made, contrary to section 167 of the Act

APPOINTMENTS

The following appointments have been announced by the Church of England:

The Rev Christopher Brown, Rector, Trowbridge St. James and Rural Dean of Brutiford (Salisbury): to be also Non rendeniary Canno of Salisbury Cathe dral (same diocese). excise duty had been suspended in bonded warehouses in the United Kingdom to be dral (same diocese).
The Rev George Crossley, Assistant
Cursta, Baiderstone St. Mary Olfanchester): to be Vicer, Branston with
Thtenbill (Lichfield).
The Rev Derek French, Assistant
Cursta, Stand All Saints (Manchester):
to be Team Vicer, East; Farnworth and
Kearsley (same diocese).
The Rev Anna Humphreys, NSM Assistant Cursta, Manchester Good Shepherd, St. Barnabas and Clurch of the
Resurrection (Manchester): to b NSM placed on the market without duty ever having been paid. Paul Lasok QC and Stephen Solley QC (Peter Rickson & Partners, Manchester) for the appellant; Anton Lodge (Solicitor to HM Customs and Excise) for the

> Lord Justice Judge said that, at the trial, the appellant had admitted that he had arranged for false documents to be returned to the bonded warehouses in the United Kingdom which had released the spirits. The single area of dispute

about the facts was that the appellant maintained that all the spirits dealt with by him on that basis had been sold in France through his company,

WEDNESDAY LAW REPORT

Excise duty chargeable

in the United Kingdom

10 JUNE 1998

Regina v Hayward Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) Lord Justice Judge, Mr Justice Curtis and the Recorder of Nottingham 8 June 1998

Beer Lovers. The prosecution accepted that some of the goods had indeed gone to Calais, but asserted that the bulk of them had never left the United Kingdom at all and had been disposed of here without payment of the appropriate excise duty. The essential feature of the appeal was that the judge had been wrong to rule and subsequently to direct the jury that it made no difference to the issue of guilt whether the appellant had sold the spirits free of duty in England or in France.

It had been submitted on behalf of the appellant that if the spirits from bond in England had reached France, whether as a result of dishonesty or not, the appellant might have evaded payment of excise duty in France, but that was a matter for French domestic law. The 1979 Act was concerned only with evasion of duty payable in the United Kingdom, and no such liability had arisen.

Regulation 1 of the Excise Goods (Holding, Movement, Warehousing and REDS) Regulations 1992, which imple-

provided that excise duty was payable on the goods which were the subject of the counts against the appellant. Those goods could, however, be held or moved without payment of duty under suspension arrangements, and where those arrangements applied, the time when excise duty was chargeable was postponed.

mented Directive 92/12 EEC,

Regulation 9 permitted the movement out of bond of goods under the umbrella of continuing suspension arrangements for export purposes, subject to the conditions in regulation 10. The goods had to be accompanied by "an appropriate document issued by the consignor".

In the present case, the "appropriate" accompanying documents did not comply with the conditions governing movement of goods under suspension arrangements. The goods had never been sent to the named consignees, nor had they arrived at the specified addresses, and stamps purporting to have been made by the relevant fiscal authorities were counterfeit. The suspension arrangement had therefore lapsed, and excise duty had immediately

become chargeable. The detailed analysis of the relevant articles of Directive 92/12 EEC by counsel for the appellant had not led the court to conclude that the domestic legal principles that suspension arrangements were vitiated by fraud in circumstances such as those in the present case were or might be inconsistent with Community provisions, and the judge's direction

to the jury was therefore correct. Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

"I ABSOLUTELY, decline to see socca' matches", E.C. Dowson wrote in a letter on 21 February 1889, which is the earliest citation in the Oxford English Dictionary of this abbreviation of our

national sport. The Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English by Eric Partridge

WORDS WILLIAM HARTSTON

Soccer (collog.)

as: "By truncated assoc. + Oxford -er".

The habit of familiarising words by truncation, muta-

tridge, at Rugby School and reached Oxford late in 1875. So Addison's Walk was "Adders" and Jesus College became "Jaggers".

er, shows footer is older than soccer: "A peculiar fashion of their own [at Harrow] which prompts tion and the addition of er them to call football footexplains socker, or soccer, began, according to Par- er'" (Boy's Own, 1863),

An OED citation, howev-

Post announcements for Gazette to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 rost announcement machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.

We ask the questions

(such as: You no longer take drugs or drink to excess. So, Boy George, name your vice)

How did you feel about playing the Albert Hall last night?

It wasn't my first time, but it can be a stuffy venue. That's why I always kick off with an array of in ya face hits. It always gets people in the mood. I try to do one London show every year, whether I have product out or not. Having been on a nightmare schedule with Culture Club of album, tour, album, tour, I now refuse to work like a well-oiled

How do you feel when you hear "Karma Chameleon"?

I used to despise it but I now view it with great affection. It's not easy to write something that stays at No 1 for seven weeks. In many ways it was the nail in Culture Club's coffin, but it paid for my beautiful house. I call it "Karma comedian".

What is your opinion of George commodate change. Michael now that he is "out"?

I think he will become a better artist and a happier person, once he gets over the embarrassment. Life in the closet is grim and those of us in the creative industries have an obligation to be honest and forward thinking. Sadly, the incident in the public loo gives bigots the opportunity to point the finger and say that all gays are depraved and sex mad. Some of us are deeply ro-

You once said you would never sleep with a woman, but you want a baby when the time is right. Is that time getting closer?

I have considered children but I It wouldn't be fair. I have incredible intimacy with women but I prefer men sexually. I accept that heterosexuality is part of me, just as everyone has a bit of queer in them, but it's a line I choose not to

You no longer take drugs or drink to excess. So name your vice. I still smoke but I have just given up alcohol. It's been three weeks

and as I DJ almost every night; it's a triumph. People love to force booze on you; I guess tragedy al-

ways loves a hostage. I don't have too many vices these days as I'm very careful about what I eat. My vice must be men. I could never give them up and I love to firt. But my worst vice is arguing. I've always had an authority complex.

Who do you think is more benign: Jesus, Krishna or Buddha?

I guess they are all equal. I think one can learn so much by exploring all faiths but religion is like wearing black tie. One has to use a bit of interpretation and be selective. Great truths are universal and often too simple to grasp. Take what you need and question everything. Change is the only constant and religion does not always ac-

When did you last cry, and what about?

The last time I really cried was when my brother was arrested for manslaughter, but, to be honest, I news, hunger, ethnic cleansing,

a desert island and you could take your make-up bag, your CD player or your boyfriend, which would you choose?

tic. I could never live without close. I love Amanda, my best think adoption would be the best human contact. A make-up bag or mate, Draguna and Simon, Michael option because I could never com- a CD player would never do. A and Phillip Salon, whom I've known d on my own would be like prison, however beautiful it

> Do you still have tea with Marilyn? We never drank tea in the old days but Marilyn will always be part of my life because we are sisters under the skin. He has a very selfdestructive nature, but I know how wounded he is and that makes me love him. All deserted children have an unbearable cross to bear,

and there are so many of us out

Do you regret what you wrote

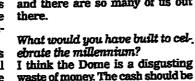
I regret that Kirk had to make a fool of himself and there was no real joy in winning. He was after my money and he got what he deserved. If he had asked for financial help, I would have obliged, but he tried to crucify me publicly and brand me a liar and it cost me £60,000. What's more, if I had written about sleeping with a woman, I would have been slapped on the back, not taken to court.

something or someone worse than

Who or what do you love most? If I had a lover then of course I'd I love my family and my sister, Siobchoose him over anything domes han, especially, because we are very for ever. There is an endless list of people I love and value dearly. I'm

> If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be? I'd have a square chin and longer legs, but to be honest I'm quite

I wish I had more self-control where eating is concerned, and



waste of money. The cash should be spent on homes for the homeless. How can we have national pride when there are thousands of kids sleeping rough in the shadow of Buckingham palace?

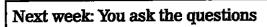
about having an affair with Kirk Brandan in your autobiography, "Take It Like A Man"?

Who or what do you despise most? cry very easily. Tragedies on the I don't really despise anyone. Homophobics and racists bother rape, Aids, there is so much to cry me but I realise that these things are a form of self-hatred. When you hate yourself or have no control If you were going to be cast on to over your emotions you have to find

very lucky to have so many good

happy with who I am.

more patience.



Ann Widdecombe

Please send any questions you would like to put to Anne Widdecombe, shadow health minister, by post to Your Questions, Features, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL or fax on 0171-293 2182, or e-mail to clongrigg@independent.co.uk by lunchtime on Friday 12 June. The best questions will be published





Where there's muck there's brass – and it could be yours

Plans to reward us for producing less rubbish could end up in the bin. By Nicole Veash

"You know that space just between the top of the kitchen cupboard and the ceiling?" says Emma Flynn. "Well, at one stage we had 400 bottles crammed up there."

Like millions of others, Emma, 27, and her four housemates intended to be conscientious recyclers. But things got in the way. Work commitments, lack of transport, someone else's responsibility, that kind of thing. And what began as a plan to recycle became a distinct reluctance to throw anything away.

Many households are familiar with the symptoms of good intentions. First the empty wine bottles mount up on top of the cupboards and flow on to the floor. Then the orderly pile of newspapers becomes so huge that it becomes almost impossible to open the door And finally, someone in the household gets fed up and puts the whole lot out for the

dustmen in black bin bags. As Environment Minister Michael Meacher knows, domestic waste is a problem. On average, each household produces a tonne of rubbish each year. And each year, the options on how to dispose of it are narrowed down.

When the long awaited Government paper on a National Waste Strategy was unveiled yesterday, Michael Meacher flatly denied suggestions that households would be taxed in relation to the amount of rubbish they produced His own spin If householders throw away waste

on the proposals is that an incentive would be provided for those bouseholds producing less rubbish. In other words, if there are fewer black sacks outside your door you will benefit financially.

Emma Flynn has shared with students, and most recently with four young professionals. "We would put out stacks of rubbish each week," says Emma, "At least six black bin bags. More often than not, we were cooking individually so you would have rubbish from around eight meals going in the bin each day. I reckon we went through a four litre milk container a day, which takes up a huge amount of room in the bin."

"We always felt we should recycle, but it was never done. Because there wasn't an actual doorstep collection we had to hump the things down to a local supermarket, which "Some kind of incentive might en-

courage people to take individual responsibility for their own waste."

Many European countries, and some states in the US, require residents to separate their rubbish at source. In Germany, kitchens come complete with at least two bins, one for food scraps and the other for products such as glass, paper, plas-tic and tins, all of which are recycled.



which can be recycled they are liable to be fined. Britain lags far behind much of Europe on recycling issues. We haven't yet assimilated environmentally friendly waste disposal methods into our culture.

"Recycling is low down on our priorities," says Steve Eminton, editor of Material Recycling Weekly. "We have a disposable culture and we

need a positive approach to change this. Financial incentives could encourage people to change their habits, but the Government must introduce pilot schemes to determine whether this is actually an effective

move in the right direction." Suzanne Barry, a 43-year-old mother of two, used to live in Aberdeen, whose council which was so

in tune with recycling needs that householders had two collections a week: one for general rubbish, one for recyclable rubbish.

"When I moved to London I was shocked at how few recycling facilities were available," she says. "I would call myself semi-green. I used to buy recycled products and save all my bottles, tins and newspapers,

Jane Stephenson, chair of Waste but because no-one comes to the Watch, runs a community recycling door things are much more difficult."

Each week, Barry puts out ten black sacks of rubbish for the dustmen. It's mostly nappies, she says, but of course they are neither biodegradable or eco-friendly. She is wary of the proposal to tax families which produce more rubbish. "I think families should be allowed to have a certain amount of rubbish each week," she says. "Obviously a couple without children will always

have less waste than us." Michael Jacobs, general secre-tary of the Fabian Society and author of The Green Economy, says that although the Government's first pronouncements on the recycling debate are positive, major strides forward still need to be taken.

"Our foremost need," he says, "is to have the right infrastructure in place to accompany the Government's suggestions. Most people think that when they take their waste to recycling bins it is auto-matically recycled. But very often this isn't the case.

We've seen huge amounts of waste paper build up because we don't have the recycling plants to cope with it. Manufacturers and packagers need to start producing a wider variety of recycled products. Only when they do that will we where would that get us?

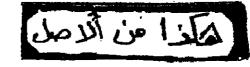
have the fully integrated recycling system that we need."

consortium in the west country. "Bristol is one of the few parts of the country that provide free kerbside collections," she explains. "Without this type of service across

the country, the Government's proposals have little chance of working " Having been involved in kerbside collections since the early 1980s, Stephenson says that recycling isn't an exclusively middle class thing, as some commentators believe.

"It's all about education," she says. "People need to know more about the effects of rubbish on the environment. And if someone actually comes to their door to collect their waste, then recycling affects them directly. They don't even need a car to go to the bottle bank."

Stephenson's acknowledgement that many local authorities are playing a far from proactive part in encouraging their residents to recycle is something, but the important thing, according to Suzanne Barry, is planning and follow-up. "The Government must set reasonable limits. taking into account things like nappies and kitchen towel. And they need to back it up with services, like door to door collections. If they don't, then people might just dump their rubbish on waste ground. And



How Everest looks from here

The world's highest peak was almost in his grasp. Back home in Kent, Stephen Goodwin reflects on the experience of a lifetime

ong and dance can be great unifiers, particuarty when accompanied by strong drink. In a house Pheriche, a low stone hamlet about four hours' walk down from Everest Base Camp, weeks of tension on the mountain were soothed away in late-night revelry.

My personal high on the 10-week. expedition had been the South Summit, less than 100m below Everest's main top (8,848m). The highest point in the world had seemed within our grasp but inexplicably a US team preparing the route ahead ran out of climbing rope. The dance rhythm was laid down by hand, mainly those of cookboy Pema Tsering, the dreaded cook himself, Arjun, and two of the climbing Sherpas, both called Nema. The same crew also led the singing though later three Sherpanis joined in, in what seemed to be a provocative dialogue in song.

The chang, local beer of fermented millet, was one of the clearest and Strod est i b20 i time I tottered off under a starry sky to find my billet I felt a warm affection for my fellow Everest expedition members. It had not always been so.

Not that our Himalayan Kingdoms Expeditions team had been the most openly fractious body at Base Camp. Quite regularly the colourful invective of frayed tempers, usually American, would carry across the glacial moonscape.

The internal chemistry of an expedition can be crucial to its success or failure. Obviously you need to have trust in companions on whom your own life depends, be it at the other end of the rope, sharing the tedious effort of boiling snow for vital drinks, adjusting the flow on an oxygen bottle or taking decisions on the weather. Are you hooked up with players or passengers? But on a big Everest trip it is much more complex than that, with the management of strong-willed Sherpas, and relations with other teams over fixing

ropes or sharing supplies. Our own expedition had one further major imponderable. It was a commercial venture with clients paying around £25,000 each for a place – and an equal right to go for the top. Hardly anyone knew anyone else before we arrived in Kathmandu (or Heathrow) and only gradually did we get an idea of each other's mountaineering ability, or lack of it. In altitude terms, my own record was the weakest. I had only

been to the top of Mont Blanc, at 4,807m a good deal less than the elevation of Base Camp. The others had all been to at least 7,000m - yet some struggled to abseil.

So how did our group divide up? There were the players, actively working on behalf of the team and involved in the day-to-day organisation. Foremost was Sundeep Dhillon, 28, doctoring to both our medical needs and tending the computers and satellite phone, and Rob Owen, 39, stockbroker-comedian, tirelessly cranking the fickle electricity generator, and one of the keenest to get up to Advanced Base Camp in the Western Cwm to repair the devastation caused by 100 mph winds. To the pleasure of all, Sundeep reached the summit on 25 May. Rob decided the South Col was high enough, showing a wise sense of his limits not matched by others.

Byron Smith, 37, Canadian car dealer, was in a class of his own, exasperating in his egocentricity and yet likeable. A self-made millionaire, er and declared no one would stop him getting to the top. For all his drive and physical power, in the end, like me, he was stopped by whoever it was in one US team failed to ensure there was enough rope to complete the route between the South Summit and the main top. The row over that omission goes on.

New York physicist David Call-

away, 41, and Irish nurse Josie Kieran, 44, are able to go to places such as Everest because there are such things as commercial expeditions. To be blunt, neither rank among nature's climbers and if selection depended on demonstrated ability in climbing ice and steep ground they would not qualify. They were "passengers". Quite why David was there remains a mystery. A lot of the time he was absorbed in a weighty professional text book. Occasionally he would growt something enigmatic like "the good die young" and in a rare burst of conversation confided that his evenings were usually spent with five hour stretches of television. Single, it was his third (I think) visit to Everest but he had never been above Camp 3 (7,200m) on the Lhotse Face. He appeared to panic on a short steep pitch in the Ice Fall and the last time I saw him he was in a similar state on a slippery bit on the Lhotse Face. Retreat followed, all the way to the Big

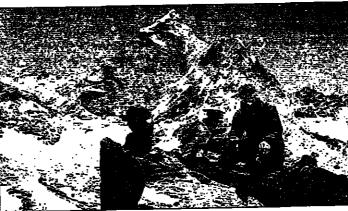


Irish woman to the top of the world and as such became quite a celebrity. Her most tense moments at Base Camp were telephone interviews for the Gay Byrne chat show. The Irish people are soft enough to come up with the cash for Josie to try again, but I hope they will think hard about the possible consequences. On her unsuccessful summit bid, she had to be "short-roped" by guide Dave Walsh up the 500m slope above the South Col. It's steepish and in previous years sections have been secured with fixed lines, but is still fairly easy ground for any competent climber. No leash should

be required.

Then there was Lily Leonard, 42, a wealthy American, resident in Hong Kong, and her guide Jim Williams, 43, from Jackson Hole, Wyoming. The pair have climbed regularly together on big mountains all over the world, but even so their plan to bag not only Everest but its neighbours Lhotse and Nuptse seemed a mite ambitious. None was achieved. Lily pretty well collapsed at the South Summit and turned back with Josie and Jim. When I saw her two days later arriving at Base Camp she could barely speak and was painfully thin. She had had a virus earlier and was probably never fully fit.

Such was the state of Lily and



by summiteers Dhillon, Walsh and three Sherpas - did not get back to their tents at the South Col until around 6pm - some 21 hours after leaving them and many hours after everyone else. A snow flurry had delayed them for a while and it is chilling to think what might have ensued if it had turned into a prolonged

I haven't the experience to pass much comment on our guides. I liked and respected them both, though they are very different - Dave Walsh, 54, our leader, was quiet and laidback, while Jim was loquacious. Perhaps we missed the third guide, "Barny" Barnicott, 45, a past Everest summiteer, who fell ill on the walk-in and had to drop out soon Josie would have been the first Josie, that the whole party-rejoined after arriving in Base Camp. Another on descending. Jim accused Byron

hand on the Sherpas and logistics might have been useful.

Given such a disparate bunch of characters and abilities, it may actually be a surprise that we only had one shouting match. But it was of some passion and for Byron and I was perhaps influential in denying us a second shot at the summit. With the party split between Base Camp and Advanced Base in the Western Cwm, those of us at the higher camp had gone for the summit on 19 May, hoping to catch what appeared from the forecast to be a brief weather window ahead of a cyclone. The forecast proved alarmist; the rope débade cost us the summit and then we were heaped with black looks and abuse by our team mates

and I of splitting the team by dashing for the summit. Really his remarks were directed at Dave, we were just proxies.

But the words hit home, particularly Jim's message "you've had your chance and failed". Later he apologised and we shook hands. The Pheriche chang session was the final soothing balm, and friendship was restored. Byron and I descended the Ice Fall early next morning. I had two lengthy articles to write and photographs to transmit. It was some 48 hours before it dawned that members of other teams were getting a second shot.

But no invite came to rejoin the team higher up and I did not push it. Perhaps I will always regret it. Having stood on the South Summit, less than 100m below the main top, I am confident 8,848m was within my grasp. But in the relief of descending to Base Camp I had already told Lucie, my wife, I would not go up again. And having already lost well over a stone and with leg muscles reduced to pipe cleaners, was I as physically up to it as I believed?

Back home in Kent, looking over my computer to a garden lush with early summer foliage and climbing roses, the land of ice and rock and the dusty middens of Pheriche seem a world away. Yet questions of what might have been seem destined to linger in my mind for quite a while.

IRRITATIONS OF MODERN LIFE

I. ONE-MAN BUSES BY HATTIE HAYRIDGE.

ACTRESS

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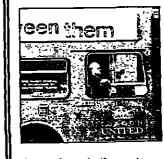
easy.

overn curs to

THE 'PAY-as-you-Enter' double-decker bus travels under many aliases. Because it needs to. It is that unpopular. Also known as the 'One-Man Bus', because it goes at the speed of one man pushing it, it is the motorised equivalent of the tower block. And like the tower block, the people responsible for it are never to be found inside.

Let's start with the design, if you can call it that, of this characteriess. ugly box. On the outside some of them are now completely covered in advertising. If the bus didn't move off (eventually), you'd think it was a hoarding.

The dreary interior looks as if workmen opened the



doors, threw in the seats and poles, then bolted them down where they landed. Every possible travelling position is catered for You can sit facing forwards. backwards, or sideways, a foot higher than everyone else, looking at the window clips, or with your face inches away from the metal stair-covering.

The stairs are tinny, the bell is tinny, the whole feel of these busses is like the cheap metal of foreign coins with an exchange rate of 17,000 to the pound sterling. No one could find a journey on one of them anything but a chore.

They cause road rage, passenger rage, driver rage, and bus queue rage when the bus you want goes sailing past those already standing at the stop. It has single-handedly been the cause of all the traffic jams known to man. These things park so long at each stop that workmen had the time to install the bus lane around them.

Once on, you can't get off. Held up in traffic, you're a prisoner only a yard before the bus stop because it's more than the driver's job's worth to let you off.

Its alias, the 'driver-only' bus, only proves the designers forgot the existence of the passengers. In their rosy world, there are no disabled people, no old people, no mothers with push chairs. no people with shopping, suitcases or crutches and I'm sure the trials were a great success.

The answer is not to bring back the conductor. There's nowhere for them to stand. But bring back the old Routemasters, the hopon hop-off buses, the ones that actually moved, the ones you could travel on for pleasure. The ones designed for passengers - 1 refuse to be called a customer - but that's another irritation ...

The glamorous way to run up an overdraft

LET'S FACE it, there can be few more glamorous ways to run up an overdraft than to take up an extended residency in a top hotel. Just imagine. No more stumbling around racking up Sainsbury's Reward Points in the seven o'clock crush. No more midnight panic when the tequila bottle mysteriously runs dry. No more rubber gloves. All your prayers answered with a fully stocked mini-bar and an intravenous

link to room service. If you have the means, then rest assured that you will be in good company. Saying that you live in a hotel has always had enormous cachet. Famous long stay hotel residents have included Coco Chanel, Dorothy Parker, Liz Taylor, Dylan Thomas and Howard Hughes. Chanel took a suite at the Paris Ritz in the Thirties and ordered a bellboy to deliv-

day. One man who perhaps understands the allure of hotels more than most is businessman Alan Edgington. In May 1995 he landed a new job at Otters, a Ford dealership in Crawley. He checked into the Europa hotel at nearby Gatwick Airport for a few Airport". days - and checked out three years,

one month and eight days later. His final bill was £40,000, for which he could probably have secured a modest residence of his own somewhere. But that, of course,

would be missing the point. By all accounts, the Europa is a serviceable, four-star establishment, not known for its tales of debauchery and rock 'n roll excess. Charming up to a point but not, perhaps,

er fresh camellias to her room every up to the standards of the Paris Ritz. "Primarily we are a hotel that is very much oriented towards the conference traveller," explains Heinz Sedlacek, general manager of the Europa. "We get a lot of people passing through to and from Gatwick

> It sounds spookily like the Traveller's Tavern, the fictional Norwich hotel where cult TV character Alan Partridge idles away his days. In one memorable episode, Partridge is so bored in his room that he attempts to disassemble the Corby trouser press in his room and shows off his impressive collection of free hotel mini-shampoos and shower caps, of which he has accu-

"I cannot confirm whether Mr Edgington collected all his free suited him. He didn't have to worry shampoos over the years but he would be entitled to them - that is all factored into our nightly room rate," explains the Europa manag-

er helpfully. Right. And does the Europa have many guests who simply can't bear to check out for several years?

"I have to admit no, this is a rare instance," says Sedlacek. "I have been managing hotels all over the world, in the Middle East and Africa hotel after the collapse of her mar-Abroad people are much more likely to live in hotels than in the UK, it doesn't go on here so much."

So why does he think anyone would want to stay at his hotel for

ington was a bachelor and the hotel about running a home."

Alan Edgington is certainly in good company. Elizabeth Taylor stayed at the old Ambassador Hotel in Hollywood, sipping tea on the balcony and smelling the freshly cut grass on the rolling lawn below.

Hotels offer luxury, but they also accord untold opportunities for bratlike behaviour. Dorothy Parker moved into New York's Algonquin riage and stayed there for several years, hosting secret cocktail parties in her room all through Prohibition.

F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald lived at the Ambassador and one

If you have the means, check into a hotel and stay there. By Anita Chaudhuri the bed, set it ablaze and skipped town without paying their bill. Dylan Thomas saw out his last days in the Fifties at the Chelsea Hotel, a venue that also played host to Nico, the Velvet Underground, Andy Warhol and

> Howard Hughes lived at the still a regular guest. Chateau Marmont in Los Angeles in the Fifties and in an increasingly paranoid and racist frame of mind, walked up the back stairs five flights to his room every time the black elevator operator was on duty.

Sid and Nancy.

The Marmont, where Jim Belushi died and Robert De Niro holed up in a penthouse for two years, has always been a popular rooming house. "This is not a hotel for tourists." three years? "Well, I think Mr Edg- night piled clothes and furniture onto quipped manager Philip Truelove to

Los Angeles Magazine recently. More recent hotel devotees have included Shirley Manson of Garbage who holes up in a hotel in Wisconsin when not at home in Edinburgh. Van Morrison who spends months living at the Portobello Hotel and Relph Fiennes, who moved into the Pelham Hotel in South Kensington

In the end, the only thing that persuaded Mr Edgington has moved out is to pursue business interests with another garage in Plymouth.

after his marriage broke up, and is

Mr Edgington himself was unavailable for comment yesterday, but his girlfriend Jo Upton, who works for the same Ford dealership, was indignant that anyone should associate him with king of the "sports ca-

sual" style, Alan Partridge. "He's nothing like that, honestly."

vours

You can't always get what you want even though the taxman does

OD STEWART, cracking corny jokes with Ron Wood about jeopardising his tax exile status by attending the recording of a TV special broadcast 10 days ago, may have been remembering his 1974 outburst in Melody Maker:

The Government thinks it'll tax us bastards right up to the hilt because we won't leave, but that's wrong because I will if I want to ... with a 90 per cent tax ceiling, it's just not worth living in England anymore," the tousled-haired singer quipped before settling abroad.

Last month, Rod The Mod didn't know how close he was to a major news story. Within a week of An Audience With Rod, there were orchestrated rumblings about the Rolling Stones trying to cut a deal with the Inland Revenue over their Foreign Earnings Deduction. On Monday came the announcement: the band had failed to reach an agreement with the British Government. They had decided to stay away from these shores for the time being. The UK dates were rescheduled for a different tax year,

Michael Ackerman, American music business attorney-at-large, has read Entertainment Industry Economics by Harold Vogel. "It's very dry, like a surgical manual. Required bedside reading," he says. "Joking aside, if somebody knows about tax situations, it's the Rolling Stones. They're very business-savvy. Promoter Michael Cohl pays them a fee for the tour, say 100, 120 million dollars for however many dates he can cram in. There are physical limitations, practical considerations. The Stones are also extremely careful with respect to the number of days they spend in the States. They always really count those days. That's why they rehearse in Canada, that's why they play there at the beginning and the end of their North American tours. Also there's sponsorship involved and the Stones make a significant amount. I'd guess a million dollars, on merchandising

Ackerman broadens the argument to his own experience. "Actually, the same kind of taxation happens in some states in America. You have to pay tax on your earnings within that state's borders. I don't see anyone not playing Pennsylvania as a result.

Bernard Docherty, tour publicist and spokesman for the Rolling Stones, concurs. He's seen this kind of controversy before. "A few years ed to retain money at source until you showed your expenses, be they taxi receipts or spending on costumes. Some of my clients like Joe Cocker and Tina Turner kicked up a fuss, U2 complained as well and the authorities relented. Anyway, the Stones hate the term 'tax exile'. It sounds like someone sitting by a pool sipping a pina colada. We're talking about a hard-working band.

Are the Stones betraying their British fans? Are they really looking after number one? Are they truly concerned about the financial wellbeing of their employees or too mean to pay the taxman? Band manager Francine Stasium has experienced first-hand the way Jagger treats employees and colleagues. In dealings with former managers Eric 1987, he sought the services of my Easton, Andrew Loog Oldham and

They got no satisfaction out of their recent fiscal negotiations, but then the Rolling Stones have always been careful not to give too much to the Inland Revenue. By Pierre Perrone



Early dealings with managers who took a large cut of the Stones' profits taught Mick and the lads to become more financially astute

Barbados," she remembers.

"At that time, we probably would have travelled in cargo and slept in ago, the German government start- a tent to get a chance to work with him, Jeff Beck and some of the other musicians involved. Nonetheless, every courtesy was extended to us through negotiations with Roger Davies (who manages Tina Turner and Joe Cocker amongst others), who was acting as consultant on the project. We got first-class travel, a generous per-diem, private accommodation with maid service and home-cooked meals served three times a day. It seems Mick really values the services being rendered. This is just a thought but maybe those who complain about Jagger's meanness are just resentful of the fact that he is more astute in business than they are."

Mick has had to be, since early

screaming "Where's my money?" and later testified in a lawsuit against him. For attorney Michael Ackerman,

"it's really a case of once bitten, twice shy. The Stones stuck their fingers in the music business pan and got burnt early on. Allen Klein gets a bad ran because he's retained the rights to their Decca Sixties back-catalogue which still sells in significant numbers, but he also did a lot of good for them, he revolutionized the music business for better or worse.

"He was an actual accountant who could audit the record companies' books. But, as Bill Wyman says, he was more out for himself than he was for them. Keith Richards just chalks it up to music lessons. We learned from the best, he will tell you."

Jagger copped a few moves from his nemesis, too, and now goes through contracts with a fine-tooth

for the solo record that became of pocket. The singer once chased on hand to offer advice to the Stones shend and Roger Daltrey bit the bul- Barbados, and Montserrat at that Primitive Cool. That was done in Klein around the Savoy hotel while frontman, who is probably still try- let and backed Britain by staying time. It's not just the vibes or the ing to make up for lost earnings, playing catch-up with his contemporaries, eyeing a flotation on the stock market a la David Bowie. We've been here before. In the

> early 1970s, when Labour got in, pop stars voted with their feet, departing Blighty the moment they hit a certain tax-bracket. The Stones picked France and soon Ringo Starr, Marc Bolan, Cat Stevens, Elton John, Rod Stewart, David Bowie, Bryan Ferry, Yes, Queen and Jethro Tull followed them into tax exile. They jetted between Monte Carlo, Switzerland and the United States and gave interviews in which they pined for Marmite, cricket and warm beer. They set up companies registered in the Virgin Islands, Bermuda, Gibraltar, the Isle Of Man, Jersey, Guernsey, Lichtenstein or Luxembourg.

Around the same time, major stars like Paul McCartney, George

then partner and client, Ed Stasium, Allen Klein left the Stones well out comb. Prince Rupert Lowenstein is Harrison. Cliff Richard, Pete Town-recording studios in the Bahamas, here. However, they hired financial consultants and accountants to maximise their tax deductions. As Daltrey himself declared upon receiving a cheque for firm, "You only have tax problems when you make a profit. Who says The Who are making a profit? What do you think it costs to

run our sort of business?" Even after Margaret Thatcher got in and brought the top tax bracket from 90 per cent down to a more manageable 40 per cent, Sting, Boy George, Def Leppard, Paul Young, The Cure and even Ian McNabb of The Icicle Works (remember, they had a major hit in America in the mid-Eighties with "From A Whisper To A Scream") sought a haven in France, America, the Republic of Ireland (where a law giving tax exemption to creative artists has also been a boon to the film industry) or

somewhere more exotic. This explains the popularity of

weather, man; after a gruelling world tour, you're outside the reach of the British tax regime for the rest of that financial year. Boredom can set in, however.

Marc Bolan famously remarked that he was bored out of his skull in Monte Carlo. "All I did was drink and take drugs." The late Who drummer Keith Moon got incredibly out of shape when he moved to California in the mid-Seventies. His self-imposed exile undoubtedly contributed to his early death.

Still, the Rolling Stones shouldn't worry unduly. With a new Motorola TV commercial using "You Can't Al-ways Get What You Want" and "classic" live albums re-released on Virgin, the royalties are still rolling in (and nobody's properly trawled through the Stones archives yet, though the BBC's 1960s recordings are rumoured to be surfacing soon). Business as usual.

RETURNS

LIKE MOST Swedish artists. Abba have had their tax problems. In the Eighties, the band had to turn against their manager, the late Stig Anderson, when the web of companies he had created (trading in everything from oil to potatoes - accepted in lien of payment for records sold behind the Iron Curtain) was investigated by the Swedish



IN MARCH 1975, the US Treasury Department claimed that James Brown, who fines his backing musicians at the drop of a hat, owed \$4.5m in unpaid taxes. The Godfather of Soul eventually sold some of his radio stations to pay off part of the debt.

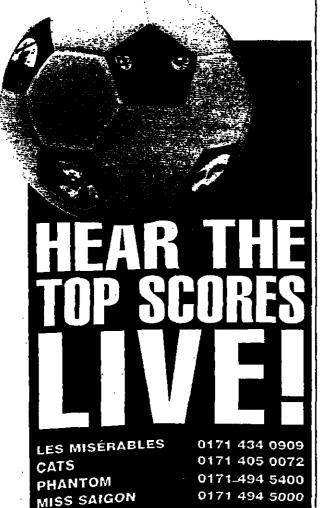


in 1979, Pink Floyd lost most of their earnings (including royalties from The Dark Side of the Moon) in the collapse of investment company Norton Warburg, which was handling its business affairs. In the débàcle, the musicians found themselves liable for huge back-taxes. The group made the best of their personal differences and struggled on with The Wall tour.



IN 1970, after signing a series of dodgy deals, The Kinks found themselves almost penniless and facing huge tax demands. Songwriter Ray Davies, who'd already written the immortal "The Taxman's taken all my dough" line in 1966's "Sunny Afternoon", now penned a whole concept album about the labyrynthine nature of the business: Lola Vs Powerman and the Moneygoround.

The night the score stood still



THE RITE OF SPRING ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL LONDON THE LAST three bars of Stravinsky's The Rite of Spring go something like this. The "Sacrificial Dance" effectively

CLASSICAL

vaporises in a wispy trail of flute sound; there's a split second's silence; a shriek of piccolo; and one final convulsion. Finish. No two performances of it ever sound quite the same. For instance, to what extent is that piccolo shriek a grace-note to the headlong crash of the final chord? How much to separate them? And how long that preceding silence? A beat-and-ahalf in whatever the chosen tempo, says the score. No comma, no pause, just a momentary suspension of disbelief. Momentary? In his intriguing performance with the Philharmonia Orchestra on Sunday, Valery Gergiev must have held that silence for a full five seconds. Meaning that he literally stopped the clock, froze the frame, re-constituted the score. And yet the preceding



music somehow filled the silence, making it audible, logical, working today whose instinctive that his way will always feel like working today whose instinctive the way. Even as the shoots and justifiable. Just justifiable, a millisecond-from-grotesque justifiable. Stravinsky might even He's an extraordinarily po-

oneness with the music he conducts can turn even aberrations like this one into believable insights. Such is his conviction, his complete subservience to tent force, is Gergiev. I don't the spirit that moves the notes,

tendrils of creation sprouted through the time-lapse imagery of Stravinsky's fertile introduction, it was plain that bodily rhythm was to be the prevailing feature of his read-

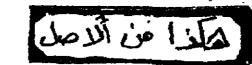
knock 'em dead brutality. The rush and intoxication of the first spring, the original dance to the music of time. The Philharmonia gave of their keenest and most buoyant rhythms (cracking timpani playing), the sonorities still sprung surprises. Gergiev's ability to draw an

audience back into even the most familiar music and insist they re-evaluate is one of his greatest gifts. In the first half of this programme, Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition were exceedingly well hung. One's mind went back to the numerous occasions where Ravel's dazzling orchestrations seemed little more than so much chic window dressing. Here, freshly restored, superbly lit, they acquired a new depth and purpose. Victor Alexandrovich Hartman would have recognised the images once more. Mussorgsky, too. As solo trumpet gave way to dark, grainy strings, his spirit loomed large. So "Gnomus" scurried from the opening promenade, Gergiev once again using the silences to convey the malignant dwarf's unsettling

troubadour, hang-dog saxophone carrying his sad song from way beyond the old castle walls. Gergiev kept the last note hanging pitifully in the air. almost inviting a response. But none came. Every note is a note of substance in a Gergiev performance. His characterisation of the rich Jew, Samuel Goldenberg – the opulent Hebraic theme richly sustained to the full value of every phrase was a case in point, further serving to intensify the contrast with the poor, meaty-mouthed Schmuyle whose jibbering trumpet was encouraged to stifle his protestations almost as if he dare not speak. And when did we last hear a performance of the "Catacombs" where the echoes of sepulchral brass were so vividly conveyed in the dynamics. From out of that subterranean gloom, the flight of "Baba-Yaga" came as an unusually rude awakening. while "The Great Gate of Kiev" was flung wide enough to allow Boris Godunov himself freedom of the city. Sensationally good. EDWARD SECKERSON

disappearances. A lachrymose

bassoon then announced the



Vant!

UNHAPPY RETURNS

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Welshness is a state of mind

The playwright Ed Thomas draws his inspiration from his imagination, from Wales - and from a bizarre near-drowning in childhood. By Dominic Cavendish

nen Ed Thomas was six years old, he fell into home in Cwmgiedd, while swinging from a tree trying to impress a schoolmate. By the time he had been fished out, 25 minutes later, his skin had turned blue. He

was pronounced dead by his uncle, so efforts were focused on saving his mother, who had waded out into the flood tide even though she couldn't swim. Ed Thomas survived because a man with "fleshy, alcoholic lips"

gave him the kiss of life. That one of Wales's foremost living playwrights came out completely unscathed from this experience is a mystery he has wondered at ever since. The incident provided the basis

for a pivotal scene in Thomas's new play, Gas Station Angel, which has just opened at the Royal Court. On stage, it is not an old soak who revives the waterlogged child but the boy's elder brother. Rather than It drawing them closer together, the act of rescue creates a lasting rift: the saviour, Bri, resents the special attention that the salvaged Marshall subsequently receives.
"He was special, he was Jesus, I

never made the papers," he comnlains, by way of explaining how he became "a bad angel".

The miraculous tale of Ed Thomas, the boy who cheated death, made the South Wales Evening Post back then, and it makes the nationals now - only this time round, at the age of 35, Thomas is credited with restorative powers. Over the last 10 years, so the story goes, he has resuscitated that moribund entity, Welsh theatre.

With his blond curts and cherubic complexion, blue jeans and black leather jacket, Thomas could easily pass for an angel who has pawned some of his heavenly lustre for the odd night on the town. Bereft of a set Shat refused to fit the space it was designed for, the bare stage at the Ambassador's Theatre, on which I find him chain-smoking furiously seems to match the cultural landscape he describes growing up in:

"Weish culture was invisible." he says, effortlessly plucking aphorisms out of thin air, honeying his phrases with his soft Swansea

"The Welsh didn't seem to be dignified enough for tragedy, funny enough for comedy or good enough

at sex to be lovers. It was as if we were meant to f*** like pigs, eat trash food and generally be a laughing stock. You learnt more from watching television about downtown Melbourne than you ever did about downtown Merthyr, and when anyone talked about Welsh theatre they invariably meant Under Milk

Thomas's first play, House of America, was, he says, "just a sophisticated way of scrawling Kilroy woz 'ere' on a toilet wall. It was there just to let people know that we



It achieved far more than that. An obliquely structured account of a dysfunctional Valleys family living on loss of self-worth and sanity is fatally accelerated by the imported dreams they fill their lives and bury their past with, the play was an overnight

After being brought to the Royal Court in 1989, and winning a clutch of awards, it justified the touring intent of Thomas's fledgling company Y Cwmni ("The company"). It also catapulted Thomas headlong into a writing career after a two-year stint playing a doctor on the Welshlanguage soap Pobol Y Cum ("I was terrible"). Last year, Marc Evans's film version, starring Siàn Phillips, scooped four Welsh Baftas.

The incestuous relationship be tween brother Sid and sister Gwenny in House of America, who make believe that they're Jack Kerouac and Joyce Johnson, took its cue from Thomas's own abortive attempt to live on borrowed icons. After he left Cardiff University, he spent "six years in London pretending to be Kerouac before I realised that I wasn't American and that I knew nothing about the Beat generation." Since his debut, there has been

a steady succession of plays that have chipped away at the prejudice that the only distinctive Welsh voices are to be found in all-male choirs. The work tackles the question of Weish national identity with the kind of head-on force you would expect from a former rugby fullback. followed through with an imaginative sensibility that is completely unfettered, blending the familiar, even the stereotypical, with the supernatural.

The plays are located in places that bear the extenuated feel of his hometown: "a bypass town with one street that stops being a street and turns into a mountain track." Flowers of the Dead Red Sea

(1991) was set "in a world of chains, knives, steel, blood and falling objects" and centred on an argument about the need for fiction between two slaughtermen (Thomas's father is a butcher, who never perstuded his son to follow in his footsteps). East from the Gantry (1992) was set in "a derelict house on a mountain surrounded by snow and boasted a main character who imagined himself as Trampas from the Sixties Western TV series The

Song from a Forgotten City (1995/96) "was about a smackhead the edge of an open-cast mine whose who finds himself trapped in the fiction of a large metropolis".

"The theme is always imagination," he explains. "The only definition of a culture or nationhood is desire. Wales only really exists in the imagination."

Thomas is not, of course, the only person to have kindled a sense that there's a Welsh cultural renaissance, and growth in national selfesteem, in progress. The release of House of America, the movie, coincided with that of Kevin Allen's

National and the media had long since attached the label "taffpop" to the new bands currently riding hell for leather over the Severn Bridge (Catatonia, Super Furry Animals and Gorky's Zygotic Mynci, to name

According to Thomas, Gas Station Angel, in which two lovers join imaginative forces to overcome their families' savage histories, reflects a Twin Town, widely dubbed "the mood of qualified optimism: "All of who comes to Wales looking for his Welsh Trainspotting". Peter Gill's a sudden Welsh culture has been roots and ends up sharing a bed with

unhip or ungroovy, come to Wales: we may be f***ed but we're happy."

work at present. Y Cwmni has been renamed "Fiction Factory" to reflect the company's diversification into television and film, and the artistic director is busy working on the third series of a home-grown sitcom. Sotellite City - about "an American

tumn. He recognises that Gas Station Angel will earn him the charge Thomas is certainly not lacking that "I'm away with the fairies. Everyone expects me to write relevant social issue plays but I think drama is life imagined rather than life reproduced. You have to reimagine the future. People accuse me of not writing plays about mining communities.

about Wales," he adds. "I'm really talking about myself." Strange as it may sound, hearing Ed Thomas talking about himself does not induce that sinking feeling.

'Gas Station Angel', Royal Court Theatre, WC2 (0171-565 5000), to 27

> Mick Jagger, Right to Reply, this section, page 5



Ed Thomas: 'When I'm talking about Wales, I'm really talking about myself'

Mining a vein of dark humour

THEATRE BRASSED OFF NATIONAL THEATRE

LONDON

and the "

IT IS a story full of belly laughs, full of the human spirit, but the National's adaptation of Brassed Off, directed by Deborah Paige, has a dark, forbidding feel to it - which is perfect

for the play's grim subject. The story - brass band saves the soul of a mining town - is well known by now, even for those who missed the film, but for all the knockabout northern a role that's crucial to the tone humour, it feels as much like tragedy as comedy.

The colliery's fate hangs over proceedings, the towering pithead machinery dominating the stage like an ancient

BRASSED OFF

IN THE first half it seemed as EXIT POLL though the cast were overwhelmed by the size of the WHAT THE PUNTERS theatre, the story took over in THOUGHT ABOUT the second half and the whole thing came alive. There was a tendency to ram the message home a bit too much: it's not subtle. Having said that, I did enjoy it.

Tony Betts, banker I FOUND it very moving, particularly the final scene when the community comes forward en masse, with the brass band playing behind them. St John Sandringham, pub-

I THINK it compared very ter than the screen version. Of liked the way it showed how a Alison Davis, office manager

"Your handkerchief's all black," monolith, while the men and Shane tells him. So it's not surprising he wants Grimley Colliery Band to survive. "Look at this tie," he says. "1881 it says - more than a hundred years garden path and the best he can this band had been together. That's seven strikes, three disasters, two world wars and one bloody long depression."

His son, Shane, is the narrator and chorus – wise beyond The lads, though, are rehis years, guiding his mum signed to closure and the end and dad through the miseries of the band. There's increased of poverty, consoling his mum incentive when Gloria comes when things get especially tough. One of the two youngalong - she's management, as it happens, but plays flugelhorn sters who play him, Luke like a goddess - though Freya Peace, was comfortable within Copeland's solo during the Concierto De Orange Juice (as Danny calls it) can't be of the play. Danny, Shane's grandfather overdubbed, unlike Tara Fitzgerald's in the movie. So when she fluffs a couple of

and the band leader (the stalwart Peter Armitage) tries hard to keep the band going, all the while dying with hing disease.

their families wait for Grimley's

certain demise as a mining

community. Phil was jailed for

his part in the miner's strike,

the bailiffs are coming down the

hope for is a few gigs as an inept

party clown.

lapses somewhat, an effect not favourably with the film. There are obviously things you can't do in the theatre that you can on film (and vice versa) but they worked with the constraints and carried it off very well.

notes suspension of disbelief

I DIDN'T imagine that the stage version would be quite so poignant. I was expecting it to be played as more of a

Janet Mascarenas, education project organiser

Ruth Sayle, homeopath

PPS A lot darker than the film, which has more of a feel-good and Full Monty-ish flavour. On the whole. I thought it was bethelped by the occasional im- protest against the destruca runaway train. There are some great lines,

but three.)

though - "We had basses that sounded like a bulk delivery of syrup and figs." Danny tells the band after one inauspicious performance. Local lad Andy is Gloria's lover, a bit slow on the uptake. "It must be for Andy that they read the main points of the news again," one of his mates says. He gets some stick later for sleeping with the enemy - but, as Phil says, "With legs like that wrapped around you, you don't

ask for a reference." There's lots of fun to be had. but it's still a mordant piece, bitter for everything the Tories did. At the end, as Danny accepts the winning trophy at the Albert Hall then hands it back as a

course, it would have been town's fabric can fall apart even better if Ewan MacGregor had been in it!

MY DAD'S from Barnsley so I thought it was very true to life; the down-to-earthness of it all was very convincing. I think they did it well and I'd recommend it to my friends. Marieliese Turnbull, who runs a charity for street chil-

IT WAS actually quite disturbing. You could read it as an archaelogy of the dying days of ed lines and some riotously Thatcherism. I particularly funny moments.

pression of the plot flying by like tion of the mining industry, all of a sudden it was like an agitprop meeting, with Danny making seemingly a genuine speech. "If this lot were whales or bloody seals," he says, gesturing to the band, "you'd be up

> There is no triumphalism at the end - as the band files off the Albert Hall stage and Danny shuffles away bent over, Shane tells us that he dies - not like the film, with its upbeat ending. But Brassed Off is still a fine play, all the better for its refusal to be merely a good | prepared piano kick the gravel

in arms."

In rep at the Olivier until 24 June (0171-928 2252). This review appeared in later editions of yesterday's paper. CHRIS MAUME

when the main source of employment has disappeared. Cristina Hutchins, hair- The performances were generally good, especially the role of the band leader Danny, who came across very powerfully.

David Burrows, market researcher

I FOUND the narrative quite enisodic at times - it seemed that some scenes were just put there to get through the plot as quickly as possible. But that didn't spoil my enjoyment: there were plenty of well-craft-

Dance to the music

ridden "like a rodeo", a madcap

hoedown, a swinging "Pavane"

for Kronos's Joan Jeanrenaud

JOHN'S BOOK OF ALLEGED

DANCES: GNARLY BUTTONS' (BY JOHN ADAMS) **KRONOS QUARTET** LONDON SINFONIETTA

AFTER Steve Reich's multifaceted Different Trains, Kronos switch to John Adams and streetcars rattling from beach

to town and back again. John's Dances are "alleged" because, as he says, "steps for them have yet to be invented". Hotfoot rhythms on a sampled

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ing scat song for four voices in Arms around Me". parallel motion", a bluesy "Hahanera", a tough-grained toccata slithery harmonics for "Alligator Escalator" and a streetcar ride back to the ocean. Adams's junkyard antics will

have you cocking an ear, or dancing, or both; but not so Gnarly Buttons, darker music that takes an occasional glance Nonesuch 7559-79465-2 back at Schoenberg's Sere-

as we encounter streetcars in nade. It was written for British motion, furious cello triads being clarinettist Michael Collins -"whose way of playing most approximates my own ideal", says Adams - and ends with a cool. simple song, "Put Your Loving "who's so fine"; then "a swing-

> The London Sinfonietta performs with their customary ease and facility and the recorded sound does them full justice. Another Nonesuch bull's-eye, then. and renewed confirmation that good new music can entertain without artistic compromise.

mth

ROB COWAN

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IN MY WARDROBE

'A LOT OF BLACK, A LOT OF WHITE, A BIT OF COLOUR - AND LOTS OF BANGLES,' SAYS WENDY DAGWORTHY (ABOVE)

WENDY DAGWORTHY has been head of the BA fashion course at Central St Martin's School of Art and Design for almost 10 years, a post which she leaves later this month to become professor of fashion at the Royal College of Art. She also designs the Liberty Collection. Here she reveals her fashion secrets.

"When I open my wardrobe. a double-layered affair which takes up an entire wall of my bedroom, I see a lot of black, a lot of white and a bit of colour. I wear the black in winter, and black, white and grey in summer, but I do have some brightly coloured Indian skirts that I wear occasionally. I used to have a whole room for my ciothes; I'm a hoarder, and find it hard to throw things away.

"I still wear a lot of my own Wendy Dagworthy clothes; in fact I've kept all of my collections. They are in big trunks dotted around the house and disguised as tables, or covered with throws. I would never part with them; I would only donate them to the V&A. One of my favourite ownlabel pieces are broderie anglaise baggy trousers in black or white that I wear underneath dresses. I also have a lot of Betty Jackson, Egg, Yohji Yamamoto, Comme

des Garçons and Romeo Gigli, and even some Prada and Miu Miu that I bought in their knock-down-price warehouse in Milan last summer. I also have a passion for unusual shoes; I've got loads, mainly flat, but I still have the Manolo Blahnik snakeskin wedges I got married in 25 years ago, and the dress. I also collect bangles; my husband buys them for me, and I like to wear lots - the longer I have them the more special they become.

"Funnily enough I don't think I've got a single bit of graduates' work. I love Antonio Berardi. but his clothes are a bit too tight for me, but I would wear Sonja Nuttall - I just haven't got round to buying any yet. I like to feel unrestricted. comfortable and relaxed in what I wear. My theory is if you don't look comfy you don't look right, and I stick to that. I don't get influenced by trends, and being a fashion tutor I can't influence my students either. My main thing is to buy things I like, it doesn't matter whether it's designer label or not. But I must say it's been nice to be able to buy my own clothes again from Liberty; they went into the store last

MELANIE RICKEY

HOT THING HND FASHION COURSE IN SPORTSWEAR

FOR MOST fashion students, Umbro is a more familiar name than Ungaro. They might leave college dreaming of the Paris catwalks, but the average student wouldn't know what to do with a couture dress if it fell on them. Instead. they are far more familiar with labels such as Nike, Adidas

and YMC. Sportswear and utility streetwear is a growth area both on and off the sportsfield. Even Prada has got in on the act, with a new range of hooded jackets, reflective Puffa jackets, and weird, moulded. aerodynamic shoes. Strange then that few students are given the opportunity to specialise in sportswear while

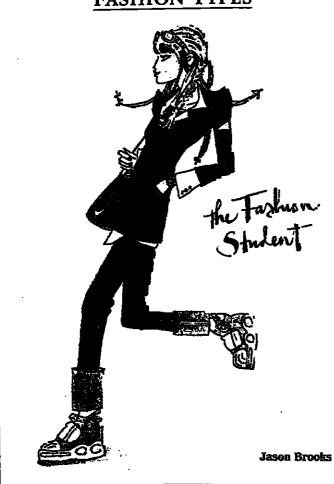
at college. In September, a unique twoyear HND course launches at

Salford University with aspirations to send graduates into jobs with companies such as Stüssy, X-Girl, Henri Lloyd and Nike. The course is geared towards turning out designers who understand the ciothes that young people really wear, introducing them to relevant placements in industry, new sportswear technology and

high-performance fabrics. If you think you could improve on the England strip, find Ralph Lauren's sportswear more stimulating than his evening wear, or want to design the ultimate snowboarding trousers, this could be for you. Late applicants are still being considered. Inquiries: Lucy Jones, Course Leader, HND Fashion, Salford

University, 0161-295 6094. TAMSIN BLANCHARD

FASHION TYPES



As this year's students graduate, how are last year's crop faring? By Melanie Rickey

Succeeding by degrees in the hothouse of fashion.

THIS WEEK almost 1,000 fashion students are exhibiting their work where the students are constantly waiting to be discovered. If can be a student of the students are constantly waiting to be discovered. If can be a student of the students are constantly waiting to be discovered. If can be a student of the students are constantly waiting to be discovered. If can be a student of the students are constantly waiting to be discovered. If can be a student of the student of on the banks of the River Thames as part of BhS Graduate Fashion Week. Of that number only one-third will present their clothes on the catwalk, perhaps five or ten will get "noticed", and possibly one will win the elusive accolade of being "discovered". Each graduate is impatiently waiting for the finger of fate - just like the one in the lottery have to work at it, and talent doesn't always mean instant successive. adverts - to say "It's You".

Being a fashion graduate is the Nineties equivalent of being an Eighties dance/drama graduate, best portrayed by the television series Fame, but sheer hard work always gets results.

pen, and in the Nineties it has happened a lot in fashion. Hussent tha layan, Suzanne Clements and Inacio Ribeiro, Andrew Fienda and Ben Pearce, Sonja Nuttall and Antonio Berardi have all gone on to greater things. But success doesn't come that easily for most graduates. We tracked down six of the class of '97, from five colleges, and iding that top marks and prizes do not help in the grand scheme of timings

MARKUS CLAYTON, 24 Fashion Design Womenswear, grad-uated from Central Saint Martin's with a first and got his first job last week at Louis Vuitton after a year

of triging.
"After the show I called the Face pretending to be my own PR, and they gave me some press, but that was about it. I had no job offers, so I put together a CV and sent about 30 of them to the big fashion houses in Paris. Then I went to Paris myself, stayed in a youth hostel, and



spent days in a phone-box trying to get interviews. I had done work experience at Jean Colonna, but there were no jobs. I got two interviews at Mugler and that fell through, too. I had to come back to England and work at Liberty as a sales assistant. In November last year I did it again, nothing happened and I felt really flat. Of the five students who got firsts in my year, two got jobs, one did an MA, one I don't know, and then there's me. I suppose St Martin's is a subconscious education, it teaches you to make the most of an opportunity. In all I've had about 30 the third time three weeks ago, and finally got offered a position at Louis Vuitton. I started on Monday. I suppose I'm excited about it, but Jean Colonna is still my dream job."

NICK SELLARS, 33

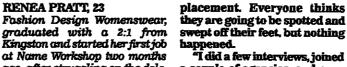
BA Hons Fashion Design, graduated from University of Northumbria with a First last summer. Now works as a designer at Nigel Cabourn and consults on the new Virgin range of clothes, to be unveiled in September.

"When I got my first proper fashion job it was the culmination of 13 years of trying. From 1985 to 1987 I did a fashion course, but ended up designing T-shirts for Asda, and was not happy. I decided I needed a



degree that taught me hands-on technical fashion design, not highend fashion, so I saved up for a few years, moved to Newcastle, and did the degree. I specialised in practical menswear. The Christmas before graduation Nigel Cabourn approached me with a job - I think someone recommended me – and I accepted. It had always been my goal two weeks before my degree.

College was like an incubation period, it was essential to me as a designer, but a year on the job has taught me so much more. It's a lot of administration and communication, not just sketching, and I also travel abroad to review fits of prototype garments, The best bit so far has been seeing the clothes I worked on being worn. My biggest lesson was realising how long it took to get where I wanted. I really had to believe in myself, and it eventually paid



ago, after struggling on the dole. People thought I would do well straightaway. I won the RSA Masters Medal and the British Fashion Council Student Designer of the Year in 1996, and other smaller awards. When I graduated I had won almost £4,000, but had not done a

ANN-LOUISE ROSWALD, 24 Fashion Print, graduated from Cento get a job straightaway. I began it tral Saint Martin's with a First last year. She now runs her own label from home and has just received New Generation sponsorship for her next collection.

Ours was the first year who had to be selected for the press show of Graduate Fashion Week, and I was lucky enough to get through. I based my final collection on travels in Tibet, with lots of hand-printed sheepskin pieces, and afterwards I was selected for the big Gala show; from that I won the Real Sheepskin Award and £500, which was really exciting. Three weeks later, Liberty

placement. Everyone thinks although I am learning now. I got they are going to be spotted and swept off their feet, but nothing

a couple of agencies, and even thought about setting up my own label. Instead, I went on the dole and sent my CV everywhere. I think it was because I had no business experience that finding a job was difficult. I didn't know about clothes production, or office stuff, just the creative side.

came to see my clothes, and asked me to do a collection. That made up my mind, and with help from my partner, Nick, I spent all summer sorting it out. In November, Liberty ordered seven new garments and some sheepskin from my graduation collection, which went into the shop last month. After that I had six weeks to get the next one ready in time for London Fashion Week last February. It's been a rollercoaster, but we got some orders. I was all ready to go to India and meditate after graduation, but instead I've had to learn how to run a small business; I haven't even had time to see my clothes in Liberty yet."

my job at Name Workshop two

months ago. It's been great. I've

designed a capsule range of

streety separates for women

that go into the shop next month

and I'm working on automn/win-

ter now. If I'd done anything dif-

ferently I would have done a

work placement. Now I really ap-

preciate that I'm here. College

was easy, but this last year has

definitely brought me back to earth."

JO FRANCIS, 22 Graduated with a 22 in Pasison Design from Nottingham Trent and is now a trainee buyer within the de signer department of Debenhams

"I knew before I finished mit de gree that I didn't want to be a de signer. I found the design than fristrating when I was on place at Burton, and wanted something more solid, with good training, an I thought buying would be ideal. started looking for a job in the final year. I had 10 interviews at places



like Harvey Nichols, M&S, Next and Dorothy Perkins, but no luck After graduation I joined a recruitment agency, they weren't much help either, so I wrote to every high street store I could think of telling them what I could do. I got the job here in August 1997 when Debenhams were just setting up the Designers' team, a department which deals with the diffusion collections from Maria Grachvogel, Ben de Lisi, and Pearce Fionda. My job title is buyers administration assistant. I love the job, it's interesting, creative, and I'm learning to use the computer, but you do have to work very hard. I'm giad I didn't pin my hopes on Graduate Fashion Week like so many of my friends. They thought they would be snapped up. I knew that wouldn't happen to me."

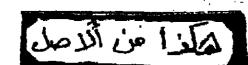
MARKUS LUPFER, 26

Harrow, graduated with a First in Fashion Design Womenswear last year and immediately began a job as designer at Clements Ribeiro. Hè also designs his own-label collection.

"I started to learn about fashion at home in Germany, but I was bored. So I came to England and entered the second year of the Harrow course. Almost immediately I got a placement with Clements Ribeiro and I also won a commendation in an RSA competition, which was



very encouraging. When I graduated I already knew I had a job at Clements Ribeiro. In fact I started working before I graduated, and they let me prepare for my show in their studio. After the show I took my collection to Koh Samui in Covent Garden. They put it in the shop and it sold out. The owner Paul Sexion then asked me to do another collection, so I spent evenings and weekends working at home. Everything is hand-made and finished, and most items are unique. The second collection went into the shop in February. This was very exciting. Meanwhile, I am doing a full-time job at Clements Ribeiro, which I love. I just want to be creative and to understand how a structured and organised business works. It is very professional at Clements Ribeiro. The most important thing I have learnt is that being a fashion designer is 20 per cent design, the rest is coping with the business.



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Oh, I say! Whatever happened to the frilly knickers?

Follow the Wimbledon stars tennis chic can really improve your swing. By Tamsin Blanchard

"OOH, TENNIS fashion. Isn't that all frilly knickers and short skirts?" I happen to be speaking with Antoni, half of the design duo Antoni & Alison. "Hmmm," I agree. The tabloids certainly think "frilly knickers" every year as the strawberries are handpicked and the cream freshly churned in time for Wimbledon Two headlines in particular stand out in my memory: "Skirty Love" and "Welcome to Wimblebum". Athena posters have a lot to answer for. "I suppose it's not frilly knickers any more," sighs Antoni. "It's probably all high-tech and heavily breathable."

The idea of heavily breathable tennis dresses is one that could really take off. Tennis, and the young stars who play it, have become thoroughly sexy. Anna Kournikova and Martina Hingis, the two glamorous teenage players who will be the focus of sports and fashion commentators alike when they take to the centre court at the end of the month have certainly set the pulses

American GQ made Hingis its cover girl this month. Not only will her glamour image boost magazine sales, it will guarantee a rise in television viewing figures for Wimbledon too.

Die-hard fans will already be familiar with Fred Perry's range of T-shirts and pleated skirts. At the David Lloyd tennis club, in Raynes Park, south London, where we took these pictures last week, the courts were packed with women practising their volleys. This is the place for ladies who lunch training sonal tennis coach in the morning, followed by a light lunch and a match before a swim and a

Louis Vuitton sports holdalls are all the rage. But there is no nonsense with frilly knickers. Most club members cover up with a pair of Lycra cycling shorts under their skirts.

In the locker-room, talk is of whether this year's limitededition polo shirt by Fred Perry is better than the one by Lacoste.

Both companies have declared this year as the polo shirt's 65th anniversary. Lacoste's special edition is a reproduction of a classic V-neck shirt from the early Sixties; Fred Perry's slim fit shirt is also from the Sixties, in the original shades of khaki and camel. It's another world.

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And the polo style works off the tennis courts too. Lacoste has a whole range of tennis-inspired womenswear, such as trademark cotton piqué wrap dresses and an ankle-length polo dress, with prices starting at £85.

Away from the famous names of tennis, Red or Dead, Bernstock Spiers and Warehouse have all come up with clothes that are streetwear with an eye on the ball boy. Warehouse has the skirt of the season - a little razorpleated number that is just about long enough to be worn in polite company. Bernstock Spiers and Red Or Dead have both used the tennis favourite, Aertex. Which brings us back to the notion of breathable tennis dresses. Aertex must be one of the oldest hightech fabrics around, the brainwave of one MP and two doctors who formed the Aertex Company manufacturing the sweatfriendly cotton fabric in 1888.

In those days, women tennis players were restricted to a slower game than is played today, not least because they played in long skirts and long-sleeved tunics topped off with a hat. It was not until 1919 that play was allowed without corsets. Not much heavy

breathing there. Even today, there are strict worn on the tennis court. The Lawn Tennis Association frowns on all-in-one body suits, short shorts, crop tops and anything that flouts the conventions of the neat white Tee and pleated

It seems strange that women still choose to wear flirty skirts rather than practical shorts like the boys. But then tennis stariets obviously like the attention although there is no excuse for frilly knickers, on or off the court.





Hair: James Mooney for Daniel Hersheson at Julie Bramwell Make-up: Charlotte Day at Rockit Model: Luba at Select Photographer's assistant: Mark Moon Shot on location at David Lloyd Club, Raynes Park, London SW20



'I'm not going there for the career. I'm going for the dream' of colour and his "well-made, so-

Alber Elbaz is to take over the reins of Yves Saint Laurent's ready-to-wear. By Ian Phillips signer of his level and talent who Tel Aviv. He started sketching at the

DAWN MELLO, the president of the American department store Bergdorf Goodman, could well have clairvoyant powers. Last year, she said that designer Alber Elbez was "destined for stardom". Last Friday, Elbaz was appointed designer of Yves Saint Laurent's ready-to-wear - a move set to make him an overnight star. On 31 October, he will leave his present position at Guy Laroche and present his first col-

lection for Saint Laurent next March. have long failed to be innovative. His new post is one of the most coveted in fashion. Saint Laurent and M Saint Laurent has realised was the first to understand the that he will never adapt to it," said power of ready-to-wear and opened us urst rave Gauche bounque in September 1966. Today, there are 50 a spokesman for the house. "So, he

feels that it is better to dedicate himfree-standing boutiques throughself to his art: haute conture." out the world and 100 in-store shops. Elbaz may be the first ever out-

Saint Laurent has not personally de-

"The fashion system has changed

The house has apparently been looking for a replacement for the side designer to be entrusted with past two years, but it was difficult to the creation of the women's readysee just who they would find. While to-wear, but it is an open secret that young designers almost unanimously express their admiration the decision of the Saint Laurent signed the line for a number of for Saint Laurent, the master him, president, Pierre Bergé. years. Instead, the house's studios self is rather disparaging of the have churned out the old classics and, though beautiful, the collections younger generation.

Main picture, yellow vest, £19.99 by Dans-ez (mail order and inquiries 01843 866300); turquoise and white pleated skirt, £79.99 by Lacoste, from Boutique

Lacoste (0171-439 2213); white hooded jacket £50 by Fred Perry, from Lillywhites (0171-307 3500). Below left, white hooded top, £35 from Warehouse

Lacoste (0171-455 2215); white modicul jacact 250 by Fred Ferry, from Limywines (0171-507 5500). Delow left, white modicul packet 250 my Fred Ferry, from Limywines (0171-278 3491); yellow shorts, £20.99 by Dans-ez; sweathands, £6 by Lacoste. Below centre, pink Aertex vest, £52 by Bernstock Speirs from Ten, 10 (0171-278 3491); yellow shorts, £20.99 by Dans-ez; sweathands, £6 by Lacoste. Below centre, pink Aertex vest, £52 by Bernstock Speirs from Ten, 10 (0171-278 3491); yellow shorts, £20.99 by Dans-ez; sweathands, £6 by Lacoste. Below centre, pink Aertex vest, £52 by Bernstock Speirs from Ten, 10 (0171-278 3491); yellow shorts, £20.99 by Dans-ez; sweathands, £6 by Lacoste. Below centre, pink Aertex vest, £52 by Bernstock Speirs from Ten, 10 (0171-278 3491); yellow shorts, £20.99 by Dans-ez; sweathands, £6 by Lacoste. Below centre, pink Aertex vest, £52 by Bernstock Speirs from Ten, 10 (0171-278 3491); yellow shorts, £20.99 by Dans-ez; sweathands, £6 by Lacoste. Below centre, pink Aertex vest, £52 by Bernstock Speirs from Ten, 10 (0171-278 3491); yellow shorts, £20.99 by Dans-ez; sweathands, £6 by Lacoste. Below right, turquoise and white stripe jacket, £159 (part of a contract that the first pink of the first pink o

In the Fifties, Christian Dior took the young Saint Laurent under his wing and primed him as his successor Saint Laurent himself has rather disappointingly not shown the

Laurent and "Alber is the only de- 12 June 1961, but was brought up in

same altruism. He has never really helped to promote any of his assistants and has not even issued a personal statement about Elbaz. It is rumoured that he has not even met the Morocco-born designer and the appointment is most certainly

Elbaz's most recent show for Guy Laroche in March and says that he chose him for a number of reasons. First he wanted somebody who would design exclusively for Saint

does not have his own label". Second, he wanted someone who would bring a bit of American commercial knowhow with him. Elbaz worked as as-York for eight years and has proclaimed that "a designer should not be embarrassed to admit wanting to Berge was on the front row of sell". Apparently, there was also a "sentimental" reason for the appointment: "Alber was born in North Africa like Yves. He has the light and

colours of Africa in his eyes." Elbaz was born in Casablanca on

age of four ("I would do clothes for the Queen of England") and started to make a mark in Israel during his days as a student. After gradusistant to Geoffrey Beene in New ation, he went to New York with \$800 and worked for a downmarket design company for a couple of years before hooking up with Beene.

In June 1996, he was appointed design director of the flagging Guy Laroche label and his three collec-

phisticated, sexy clothes with a minmum of fussiness". He has also managed to update Laroche classics and it will be exciting to see his modern take on the Saint Laurent smoking and safari suit. A new studio will be set up for him in a town mansion adjacent to Saint Laurent's Parisian couture house.

Taking over from the master will not be an easy task, but Elbaz does not seem to be too daunted. In the past he has claimed that "I don't want to be a star ... I just want to tions to date have been huge suc- make beautiful clothes". About his cesses with both press and buyers move to Saint Laurent, he says: "Tm alike. He has been praised for his not going there for the career. I'm perfect tailoring, his beautiful sense going for the dream."

ON THE **FLOOR**

THE DIARY OF A TRADER

NEIL HAD an engagement this week: his own. Unfortunately, when he announced it no one believed him. After all, not many women are daft enough to want to spend their life with a man who makes Gazza look refined.

The mystery woman turned out to be Kylie, the bottle blonde bombshell from settlements, who fell for his charms when she saw his new Porsche less than two months ago. The resulting dinner date must have been a success, and the whirlwind romance culminated on Saturday with a proposal over a slap-up meal at Romford's best Italian restaurant.

Neil has spent the whole week giving me smug yet baleful looks of the "if you'd played your cards right it could have been you" variety. Worse still, I've started to have terrible dreams in which it is me, and wake up shaking with

Even leaving Neil out of it, Laura and I are not convinced there are such things as joys of marriage. "I mean," Laura said, frowning, "if marriage is so great, how come so many people get divorced?" "Well," I told her, "apparently, we'll feel quite differently about it the minute we're in our thirties, and we'll suddenly become desperate to settle down. That's what it says in the magazines. It must be true."

"Ob," Laura said. "I thought it was men who suddenly got desperate to be married, and all this stuff about us being more likely to be run over by a bus than get hitched was just to frighten us into tying the knot with the first bloke who asked us.'

"What gave you that idea?" "Neil, actually," she replied. "He was telling me earlier how sick of take-aways he was, and how nice it would be not to spend Sunday night ironing his shirts for the week. I wonder if Kylie knows what she's letting herself in for."

Not that it matters, we decide. If she ever realises she's made a terrible mistake, we can always sell Kylie our long list of ways to get rid of odious Neil (number 352: drug him, stick "meat is murder" T-shirt on him, and leave him at Smithfield Market).

"That friend of Sash's would approve of the T-shirt, at least," Laura points out. So I laugh and realise that, what with all the talk about Neil, I baven't vet told her how Beanie coped with being the token arty at my dinner for City friends. I'd had high hopes that he would cope badly; after all, he was the one who was so vile to me when I was the token suit last week ("capitalist bitch", indeed). And I'd deliberately invited people I knew would take exception to his lifestyle, including Jasper, who thinks anyone who works less than a 70-hour week is a pathetic scrounger.

The first shock is that the caterer turns out to have been at prep school with one guest, and we nearly have to send out for pizza because they spend so long reminiscing. Luckily, the gingered poussins, when they arrive, show no sign of neglect and everyone tucks in happily.

Beanie arrives late, not in the least bit apologetic. I'm just about to say something terse when Jasper suddenly roars out, "Beanie, old boy, what the hell brings you here?" and Beanie goes scarlet and stomps over and they give each other great matey slaps on the back.

"Meet Beanie, evervone." Jasper booms, "my old mate from Winchester. Jammy bastard got left an absolute fortune by his grandfather in our last year, so he'll never have to do a day's work

THE TRADER



The Glory of Mr Swinson

nybody who has had even the slightest dealings with Chris Swinson will not have been a bit surprised that he concluded his first speech as president of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales with a bit of verse.

Over the years, Mr Swinson has been a powerful counterbalance to the idea that assumed a senior minister-withoutaccountants are all dull number crunchers whose favourite bedtime reading is a has taken his old firm's place in the BDO DTI investigation report. A distinctly international network and has set itself up larger-than-life character, he has enlivened as avowedly anti-merger. even the dullest meetings of the institute's council with well-rounded "bons mots", quick repartee and the odd disquisition on obscure avenues of popular culture.

Accordingly, he leans to the defence of Rudyard Kipling, author of one of the two poems chosen for his speech. Explaining that the poet had been much misunderstood as a jingoist, he says that "The Glory Of The Garden" is "a great favourite", with a theme that devalues those who sit around and take the credit "while better men than we" keep things moving.

Though Mr Swinson - with his oldfashioned suits, courtly manners and fondness for good living - can appear the epitome of the "old school tie" sort who traditionally run our great institutions, he is concerned that office-holders like himself should not get carried away by their own self-importance. And he claims the entreaty to the body's members to read the poem and its companion, "warty bliggens the toad" by the New York journalist Don

Marquis, "seemed to be effective". A deep thinker who does not always seem to find it easy to understand why others disagree with him, Mr Swinson has not always had things his own way. Several years ago, he found himself suddenly out his job as national managing partner at the The new president of the Institute of Chartered Accountants

is no mere number cruncher. By Roger Trapp

Hamlyn after what is generally assumed to be a dispute over the firm's future strategy. The firm is now part of the Arthur Andersen organisation and Mr Swinson has portfolio-type role at Stoy Hayward, which

Nevertheless, for all Mr Swinson's insistence that it is Kipling's "poor bloody infantry" that matter, the institute is - at what could turn out to be a crucial period in its history - blessed with having three big names at its top. Elected alongside Mr Swinson at last week's annual meeting were Dame Sheila Masters, the KPMG partner who will combine the deputy presidency with her existing high-profile roles at the Bank of England and other parts of the public sector; and Graham Ward, a former boxing blue who has been leading the institute's battle for reform of the laws concerning auditors' liability for negligence,

becomes vice-president. The idea, says Mr Swinson, is that - as each of them assumes the presidency they will continue with the policies being out in place now, so that things actually change. "We believe that we have an opportunity for three years to build on the strategy achieved under Chris Lainé [his predecessor as president)."

Pointing out that it is impossible to change a bureaucracy as large as the institute overnight, he adds:

"It needs pressure and it needed office holders who were prepared to live with rocking seas for a while. The trouble with being president is that there's a bit of you then leading second-tier firm BDO Binder that wants a nice time. But I believe

Antique Fairs

you're not worth very much if you're only there to have a nice time. The real test is But he pointed a fee intention to stop the consistency over a period."

Certainly, the stop-change approach created by having presidents come in for a year, often on very different agendas, has in the past handed the initiative over to the organisation's secretariat - leading one disillusioned office-holder to remark that his only decisions were about the menus for the dinners he hosted and prompting the review that has begun to be acted on.

One idea - to give presidents longer terms of office - has not been acted on, largely because of practical problems. But the examination by Peter Gerrard QC has led to the president assuming more executive powers alongside a senior officer and devolving certain powers to a chairman of the council. And Mr Swinson believes that having a group of senior officeholders coming in on what amounts to one ticket will help reinforce the changes.

"The three of us are clear about the discomfort there will be. We don't want to create needless uncertainty, but we can't afford to dodge the fundamental questions that members have been asking for some time," he says.

Mr Swinson is more aware than many of his colleagues of the outside world's perception that the accountancy profession is not as effective as it might be about disciplining members who err from the straight and narrow. Back in the early 1990s, he at a time when others in his profession were taking a more defensive line - admitted that there had been "a decline in the quality of accounting". This he attributed to the prevalence of financial engineering techniques later taken to task in the analyst

rot demonstrated by the setting up of the Accounting Standards Board under David (now Sir David) Tweedie, and - eight years later - believes that the initiative has Deen largely successful Ho out that the real test will be posed by another economic downturn.

It is therefore understandable that he was given the task of coming up with a proposal for change that would meet critics' objections about self-regulation at the reality that anyone who does not develop same time as keeping the role within the organisation's remit.

Though not everybody is agreed that even Mr Swinson's acknowledged intellect has come up with an effective solution, a scheme has nevertheless been drawn up and presented to the Government. It is a matter of frustration to him that ministers have not yet given their verdict on the plan. But, despite his personal interest. Mr

Swinson does not believe this is the most urgent issue facing the organisation. That accolade belongs to dealing with members' interests. There is such a wide variety of occupations covered by those holding the qualification chartered accountant that the institute has to find a way of serving them

more effectively, he says. This is behind the decision to divide the organisation into the directorates dealing with education and training, discipline and professional conduct and members' interests. Heads of these departments are at present being recruited. It is also behind the recently published document "Forging a New Partnership with Members" and perhaps even more importantly - the consultation exercise on education and train-

ing that is now under way. Previous attempts to introduce a series of training options around a central core of skills have failed to win over members keen to protect what they see as a special qualification. But the continuing popularity in the business arena of the MBA and the Chartered institute of Management Accountants examinations is putting intense pressure on the institute

In addition to making the initial qualiessential that efforts are made to enhance continuing professional development. As Mr Swinson said in his speech at last week's annual meeting: "Most of our members well understand the commercial and enhance his professional skills will suffer at the hands of the market."

Very much aware that these and other initiatives will require a lot of hard work and possibly even more diplomacy, he is, however, sure this is a fight worth fighting.

"Professional bodies matter," he says, as if in answer to those who feel that organisations such as the Institute of Chartered Accountants have outlived their usefulness. "Professional bodies exist to maintain a culture in which practitioners are reminded that there is a public interest in what they are doing and that they should therefore conduct themselves accordingly."

He believes that initiatives like his regulation reform proposals will help keep the institute alive, but he stresses that it is important that neither him nor those around him rest on their laurels. Because circumstances and public perceptions change, the organisation's role will necessarily change.

If it lets the world pass it by there is a danger of it becoming another dining club. "I belong to dining clubs and they can be fun, but I don't want to spend the rest of my life in dining clubs," he says.

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UPDATE

Joining the Stock Exchange

HW GROUP, the recruitment company best known for its financial arm, Harrison Willis, plans to seek a listing on the London Stock Exchange, in a move expected to give it a market value of about £40m. The company, one of the stars of the latest Independent 100 listing of fastest-growing private companies, dates back to the Fifties, but it has grown especially rapidly since a management buyout in 1997.

How to avoid liability

FINANCE DIRECTORS have changed their minds to support the idea of accountants reducing personal risk from legal claims by forming limited liability partnerships, says a survey by Reed Accountancy Personnel and Accountancy Age, 51 per cent of 200 finance directors questioned backed limited liability partnerships. When asked the same question in 1996, 39 per cent supported such limits on liability.

High price of leverage COMPETITIVE PRESSURE among venture capitalists is

leading them to pay high prices for businesses using highlygeared deal structures, resulting in leveraged buyouts reaching a price peak, according to Price Waterhouse's business regeneration unit. Most venture capitalists do not acknowledge overpayment as a major cause of failure in their portfolio or believe that high prices are likely to give rise to significant problems in the coming years.

Rules of the IASC

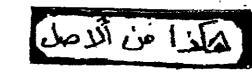
ACCOUNTANTS ARE being urged to let the International Accounting Standards Committee get on with the job of devising a single system of accounting rules for the world. Ken Wild, technical partner at Deloitte & Touche and joint author of International Accounting Standards: A Guide to Preparing Accounts, says: "International companies need one set of accounting standards and one only. The IASC should provide them."

The looming euro

THE VAST majority of multinational companies predict that they will have to revamp their compensation packages for staff working abroad following the introduction of the euro next January, yet only a quarter of them have started to look at the problem seriously, according to a survey by KPMG.

Cambridge is top of the league

CAMBRIDGESHIRE RESIDENTS are much more inclined to start up in business than their counterparts elsewhere, according to research from Barclays Bank. Its newly launched "entrepreneurial index" shows that the county has twice as many entrepreneurs as a proportion of the working population as the national average. Among the factors putting the county at the top of the league table are the growth of tourism and high-tech industries linked to Cambridge University and a thriving industrial base.



ED (20 15)

Incredible shrinking council

A communications revolution is set to turn Surrey into the first virtual local authority. By Paul Gosling

THE FIRST virtual local authority is £25m. What Surrey did not predict on the horizon with "hot desking", was that this would become the a telecentre, video conferencing, home working and the most advanced call centre in local

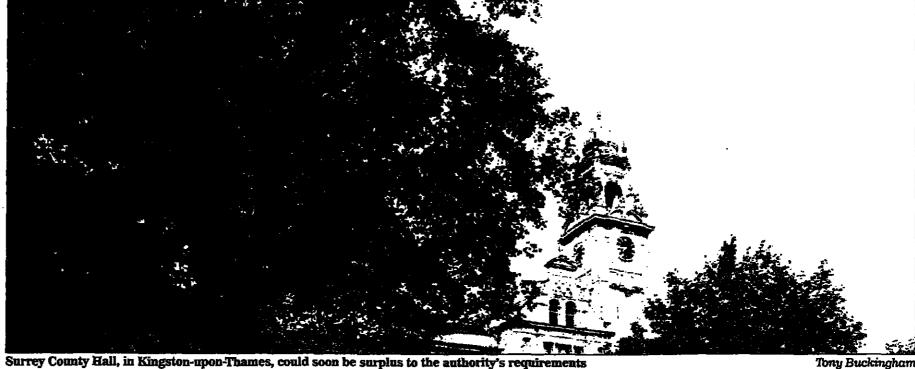
It is significant that the council taking these steps is Surrey, regarded as one of the most efficient authorities in Britain and whose management initiatives have been widely copied. Equally significant is the fact that the the re-engineering of Surrey was generated by a po-tential deficit and that new systems are cutting millions of pounds off the council's annual expenditure.

For several years Surrey had been spending above its income. In 1996 there was a fundamental review of expenditure examining every service, reducing the base budget by

model for all other councils - under the Best Value policy every authority will be expected to conduct its own fundamental review.

The outcomes for Surrey are radical. At the heart of it is the desire to rationalise the council's property portfolio and convert fixed into variable costs. The council owns 90 office buildings, but in five years this should be reduced to about 35. There is even an open question about whether the council will sell County Hall, which is in Kingstonupon-Thames, now part of London, and hence outside the area it serves.

Surrey has already conducted what it believes is the largest private finance initiative contract signed by a council when it disposed of half of



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county has also brought libraries, adult education and youth services together. "These services were really doing much the same thing," says Michael Jennings, director for partnerships and community affairs, and previously assistant chief executive in charge of corporate management. "They were all about recreation, life-long learning and public information.

Bringing services together

its residential care homes. The costs - as well as helping generate income; one of the new integrated centres contains a Post Office, and discussions are taking place about installing cashpoints in others.

A programme of transferring ownership of community buildings is under way. A parish or town council might buy a property, and residents have formed trusts to take over community centres. Grants may be obtained from the county council for running costs, and means fewer buildings and reduced applications are encouraged from centres, but most really mean one-

other bodies, such as the lottery. stop shops, which the public can "Hot desking" also emerged from drop into about any problem. Surrey the review, encouraged by the desire to achieve a big reduction in office space. Even Mr Jennings now operates without sole use of a desk, sharing an open-plan office, conducting some work in meeting rooms, sometimes working from home and using a lap-top to communicate with the council's intranet

The next step is to create a call centre. Many councils talk of call

has dismissed this option because of the cost. Instead it is modelling itself on the private sector, where an increasing proportion of business is handled over the phone. This will cut costs, while producing a more integrated service, believes Surrey.

But saving money is, in a sense, the easy part. Doing so without damaging service provision is the crunch. According to Audit Commission performance indicators,

Surrey is still one of the better managed authorities. Those indicators, however, have been criticised as giving well-heeled areas, like Surrey, an easy ride compared to deprived centres like Liverpool. Surrey has been approved as a Best Value pilot, specifically to develop a set of indicators that will measure both the level of need in each community in the county and the quality of service. Consultation will judge how effective the council is in delivering services. That in the end will be the acid test.

TEL: 0171 293 2222

APPOINTMENTS: ACCOUNTANCY, FINANCIAL, LEGAL

FAX: 0171 293 2505

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individual to help provide a comprehensive linearial audit service within our organisation.

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HE POSITION:

Based at the Edinburgh Office, son will be responsible for a broad range of system audits and for system development audits of new IT applications You will also assist with the audit needs assessment and in formulating

Tou will also assist with the audit meets assessment and in formulating long term and annual internal saidii plans

QUALIFICATIONS:

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Experience of systems auditing in the public or private sector

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For an application pack PLEASE WHITE to Mexico Mikhail, 12 Hope Terrace, Edinburgh EHS 2AS, quoting the reference CH6. The closing date for receipt of completed applications is Friday 26 June 1998.

WORKING WITH SCOTLAND'S PEOPLE TO CARE FOR OUR NATURAL HERITAGE

Appointments also appear on page 20.

International Investment Bank requires Legal Specialist

to provide support for the transaction execution team.
Responsibilities will include providing legal advice
and guidance in respect of corporate and finance
issues, drafting and negotiating legal documentations
and liaising with internal and external lawyers. The successful candidate will possess a relevant degree, be a qualified lawyer and have a minimum 2/3 years relevant post degree experience. A knowledge of Australian law is also useful. Salary commensurate with experience. If you possess the necessary skills, please send your C.V. to PO Box B21915, Islington, London, N1 IWS

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The successful candidate will have a background in construction accounting with an MBA, ACA or other equivalent advanced business degree. Additionally, the candidate must be self-motivated with excellent inter-personal skills, proven man-management capabilities and the ability to lead in a rapidly growing and changing environment.

Please forward CV and address to: Shirley Walker, Group Personnel Manager, Canary Wharf Limited, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf,

CONSULTANCY SUPPORT MANAGER

£24,480-£26,526 p.a. inc.

The Construction and Property Consultancy is an in-house business unit set up in 1995 which has won a five year contract to provide construction and property services from April 1996. We are seeking an experienced manager to provide financial and administrative support

services. This is a senior post in the business and the successful applicant will maintain and develop effective financial and performance monitoring systems and play a key role in preparing the Consultancy's business and marketing plan.

You should have a recognised professional accountancy qualification or three years' experience at a senior level in a financial environment. Experience of mainframe and PC based financial applications is essential. Sutton offers:

Interest free season ticket loan

Please quote Ref: ES097 Application forms and further details are available from: mental Services Personnel, 24 Denmark Road,

Carshalton, Surrey SMS 2JG. Tel: 0181 770 6435 (24 hour answerphone). Closing date: 24th June 1998.

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SALES CONSULTANTS

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Our client is an international high technology information services company and the UK market leader in market analysis.

Planned expansion of the London office has resulted in the creation of several positions within the established and successful financial services sales team where you will be given the opportunity to opportunity to sales team where you will be given the opportunity to grow and develop accounts in this dynamic sector.

Dealing at a senior level, you will present innovative solutions to meet sales, marketing and planning needs which will help to define and shape the clients' business direction. Each successful candidate is likely to have a background in market analysis or have worked for a financial services provider in order to understand the needs of those businesses and the applications of market analysis to them. Either way you will have successfully met sales or revenue targets and be comfortable in selling concepts or products at senior levels. You will be a team player, highly monivated and are likely to be aged 25-35.

Full product training will be given and the on-going career development of its staff is important to the company. The salary package consists of a generous basic, commission and bonus with anticipated OTE of \$42,000. The company-offers a flexible benefits package which includes a choice of car, pension scheme, life insurance, healthcare and a generous boliday

For further information please telephone Greg Fisher on the number below. All enquiries will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

Lawson Price, Spectrum House, 56 Goldsworth Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 1LE 01483 729192. PRICES

ASSISTANT FUND MANAGER

needed at rapidly expanding fund management company. Duties include researching and analysing companies, client liaison, developing new business and overseeing day to day operations of the business. Desired

applicants should have a proven track record with segregated accounts, experience in adapting and creating fund management software, a university degree, have passed the SFA exam and substantial experience in UK equity markets.

Salary offered will be £22,000 - £30,000 per annum

depending on experience.

Please send CV's to Amanda Backshall, 19 Pond Place, London SW3 6QJ

<u>Manager</u> (Indian Law and Accounts) - Legal Firm Salary: £14,000 - £15,000

should have two years experience in practice and ess management of a Legal Firm responsible for the

income Tax Act. Interpretation of agreements/sale deeds entered in India. In addition to these the applicant shall have experience in preparation and finalising of accounts and general administration.

The Applicant should possess a bachelor degree and an LLB. degree from an Indian University with elective subject on tax laws. Must be fluent in written and spoken English, Hindi and a South Indian language.

Please apply 10: -Mr Sunil Kumar, Messrs Thakrar & Co Solicitors, 38A/B The Broadway, Southall, Middlesex UB1 1PT



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Recently established property and corporate investme company requires two Associates for the London headquarters. Responsibilities will include developing acquisition and investment strategies in real estate and corporate entities to be implemented in Central and Eastern Europe including Russia and the Newly Independent States.

landidates should possess an MBA or equivalent with at least 12 months practical experience of corporate investment within the emerging markets of this region. Fluency in Russian essential with another language from this area desirable.

C.V.'s to PO Box A21015, Islington, London N1 1WS



THE EGYPT **EXPLORATION** SOCIETY

is creating a new post for a Financial Administrator at the Society's central London office, to

be responsible for the Society's bookkeeping, banking, invoicing, subscriptions (including reclaiming tax on covenants and maintenance of the computerised membership database.

A flexible approach together with experience of book-keeping and computerised systems (mainly PC but also Macintosh) is essential. An interest in ancient Egypt is desirable but is not a requirement. Salary: in the region of £15,000pa -

depending on experience.

Please send a CV and the names and addres. referees by 15th June 1998 to: The Honorary Secretary, The Egypt Exploration Seciety, 3 Doughty Mews, London WC1N 2PG.

International investment Bank require Research Analyst

to provide coverage for German Institutions. Responsibilities will include analysis of US equities providing detailed investment reports to clients. Candidates should possess an MBA degree or equivalent in either imance or economics with at least three years relevant sales and analytical research experience within an International Investment Bank. An established relationship with German Financial Institutions would be desirable. Salary commensurate with experience.

CV's to PO Box 21015C

Islington, London N1 IWS

Casual investors can make it easier to take their fair share

PORTFOLIO MANAGERS provide three main useful facilities for sophisticated, hands-on equity investors who want to trade from home. First, they offer a way to track the movement of shares, handle multiple portfolios, and group shares, by market sector, for example. Second, they demonstrate the financial implications of the data, such as projected income from dividends and capital gains tax liability.

Finally, they enable analysis of the yield and P/E ratios of securities in a portfolio, track shares with a view to purchase and produce see charts to show performance relative to the market index.

When comparing competing products, consider the number of portfolios each can manage, whether they offer options such as multiple-currency portfolios and whether they can handle unit trusts, PEPs, and gilts.

Having retrieved your prices, and background information such as the market indexes and financial news, the next step is to make use of that data. Some investors choose to use their spreadsheet, or a general personal finance package such as Quicken or Microsoft Money, but on the whole you will get more facilities if you choose a portfolio management

Some of these are tied to the data "feeds". For example, InfoTrade has its own portfolio manager, as do TenFore and MarketEye. Alternatively, a wide range of portfolio management packages will use data that has been retrieved electronically or typed in manually. The main thing to check is that your potential package supports the data source you want to use.

If you have a few shares, and are only a casual investor, then you might find the facilities offered by the personal finance manager Quicken 98 sufficient for your needs. As an adjunct to its main role of tracking personal bank, savings and loan accounts, it can keep track of one or more portfolios, treating them as an investment account. You can look up security ticker symbols on the Quicken Web site, or enter SEAQ or MicroPal codes.

The prices used by Quicken are S&P Comstock 20-minute delayed, and you are limited to working with UK securities. You can watch shares that interest you, view

There are lots of portfolio management

packages -Kay Ewbank and **Janet Swift**

look at the choices

price histories, and performance charts. Microsoft Money 98 works in a similar way but you already need to know the ticker symbol to obtain prices from the Microsoft. Investor Website. Alternatively you can maintain an online portfolio on the Investor Website, tying your online

portfolio with your local portfolio. Retrieving online prices into Money is a bit tricky - for example, even though Microsoft's Investor Website confirmed the ticker symbol for SmithKline Beecham as SBH, Money reported an unknown ticker symbol of SBH when we attempted an updated price. If you already have Microsoft Money for general personal finance, it's worth looking at its portfolio management facilities, but many investors will need something more specialised.

Fairshares is one of the more sophisticated packages, and is organised in modules, so you pay for what you get. The basic level lets you manage several portfolios. draw data from Prestel online, view some predefined charts, group your shares, set stop-loss levels, and calculate your capital gains liability (including indexation).

The basic charts and reports show you the moving average, the volume traded, Relative Strength Index (RSI), and stoploss levels. If you want to create your own reports and graphs, analyse your data more fully, or use data from MarketEye or Teletext, then you need to buy add-on

Updata is another modular package, with options for portfolio management, analytics, and viewing prices, all accessed

from Updata Data Director, which also takes care of inputting prices. You can use Prestel as the data source, showing the information in the trader module.

It can deal with multiple portfolios, and group portfolios can be made up from securities owned by more than one person. You can set stop-loss levels, manage capital gains liability, and view basic information. More sophisticated analysis is carried out in the Analytics module, where you can view moving averages, market trends, RSI and other short term indicators, and put together your own charts and reports.

StockMarket Investor 2, by contrast, includes all its facilities in a single application. You can draw data from Prestel or Teletext, manage multiple portfolios, and create your own reports. StockMarket Investor can handle more than one currency, translating back to your base currency for a summary report.

Portfolios can group shares by sector, and you can set stop-loss alarms. Reports and charts let you see your capital gains liability including indexation, and you can view activity by date and sector. Predefined charts include prices charted against oscillators, averages, and market

The Analyst is a very flexible package in terms of inputting price data. You can use a Teletext receiver, get end-of-day prices from Prestel, or have Analyst's creators send you a weekly or monthly disk containing the prices. The company also provides you with historical data sets containing all the prices for at least the two past years, and up to 12 in some instances. It can manage multiple portfolios, set stoploss alarms, and carry out extensive charting and analysis.

If you are an amateur investor with a PC, any of these packages is going to provide you with facilities that will help you take your portfolio seriously - and perhaps make serious money.

Microsoft Money '98, Microsoft, 0345 002000; Quicken '98, Intuit, 0800 585058; Fairshares, Fairshares Software Ltd, 01703 660111; Updata Trader, 0181-874 4747; StockMarket Investor 2, Meridian Software 0181-309 5960; The Analyst, WinStock Software, 01962 715557.



You too could be a 'sophisticated, hands-on, home-based equity trader' if you had the right portfolio manager

ADVERIISEMENI

The ideal mortgage for the self-employed

A Personal Choice Mortgage™ clicked with software designer Chris Hay because of its immense flexibility.



Chris Hay from Peterborough set up business on his own some time ago as a computer software designer. Business has never been so good and with the imminent arrival of a new baby he felt that the time was right to move to a larger home. He was looking for an established lender to assist him with a flexible mortgage under normal terms and conditions.

Then a friend recommended the Personal Choice Mortgage from Bank of Scotland. Personal Choice™ is so flexible, it can adapt to the needs of the self-employed or anyone with an income that fluctuates.

Working with the figures to hand, the Mortgage Specialist at Bank of Scotland guided Chris through his application to make sure that he wasn't about to overstretch himself.

As he had a small deposit to put down, the whole process was easier than Chris had dared imagine.

The Bank satisfied itself on Chris's ability to service and repay the mortgage through various checks.

Chris was equally impressed that as well as being flexible at the outset, Personal Choice also offers freedom when it comes to repayments.

You can opt to pay more each month or less when you need to. You can even choose to take a payment holiday of up to six months or, alternatively, pay over 10 months, instead of 12 each year*. This gives you the chance to keep a better

to an extra 5% of the value of the property.

Variable rate of 8.69% (9.1% typical APR).

Pay more or less depending on your circumstances*.

• Free remortgage package to cover solicitor's and valuation fees**.

Enjoy a more flexible mortgage with payment holidays of up to six months.

. Use the cheque book for access to overpayments or borrow up

control over your finances at difficult times of the year such as when you splash out for your holidays.

Another innovative feature of Personal Choice is the opportunity to combine your savings with your mortgage. This makes perfect sense when you consider the rate you pay on your mortgage is likely to be higher than the interest you ever received in a savings account.

Not only does it mean you can reduce the interest you pay monthly, but if you wish, you can even pay off

your mortgage earlier. And yet you still have easy access to those savings the moment you need them.

You are even given a cheque bookt so you can borrow up to an extra 5% of the value of the property should you ever require to make an unexpected purchase.

Provisional acceptance of your application for a Personal Choice Mortgage can be given over the phone 7 days a week and between 8am and 10pm. It sounds easy, and that's because it is. As far as our software designer friend, Chris Hay, is concerned, the mortgage couldn't have been designed any better if he'd done it himself.



Capital raise up to £50,000.

No arrangement fee.

No redemption penalty.

variation. The cheque book is not available on a montgage of £15,001 or leas. **Provided the Bank's Panil Social as used. Desir of social and subscribes to the Banking Code (1997) and adheres to The Bank of Social and subscribes to the Banking Code (1997) and adheres to The Code of Mortgage Lending Practice.
YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

Healthy move: plan to be ill Free money:

What's the best form of income protection to have in the event of long-term sickness? By Andrew Couchman

YOU were to become seriously ill had could not work for some months, maybe years, which would be of most use to you, a regular monthly income or a cash himp sum?

It is a question that is impossible to answer. The lump sum may help you adapt to any new way of life, but you would still need an income to survive on. On the other hand, the income without the lump sum would mean you would receive no capital to buy the things you might need, and the chances of borrowing money would be bleak if you were not able

But when it comes to protection insurance, all too often insurers sk you to make just such a choice. They can offer you income protection, sometimes also called permanent health insurance or PHI, and this will pay a monthly income if you cannot work because of illness or disability. You can usually have up to 50 to 60 per cent of your income insured and the insurer will pay out after you have been ill for between three and twelve months (the shorter the time the more expensive the cover, generally) until you return to work, die or retire.

If you would prefer a lump sum, a critical illness policy would give you exactly that on diagnosis of one of erhaps 30 or more critical illness-. It would pay if you had a heart attack, stroke or cancer, for example, even if you went back to work fairly quickly.

Income protection is the elder product, baving first seen the light of day over 100 years ago, since when it has changed little. Generally, white-collar workers pay least while people in some occupations such as

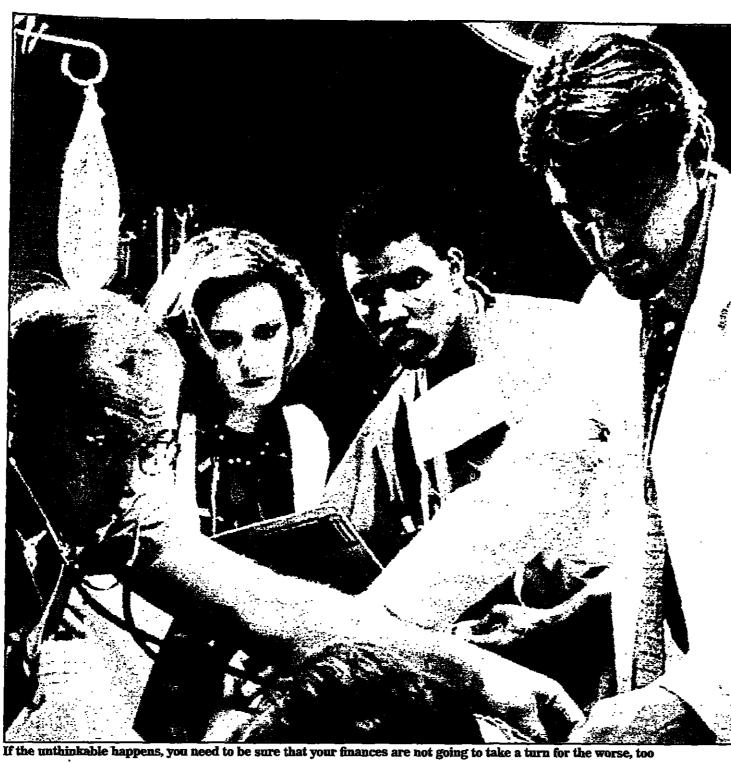
ing your employer:

Is there a company income protection or PHI scheme in place?

After how many weeks or months of illness will it pay out and for how

How much would I get? Will it go up as salaries rise? If I leave can I take the cover with me (this is known as a continuation

It may be possible to top up any existing company cover or to have



your own independent cover, but that more generous than the tests apwill not entitle you to double benefits - and it pays to take professionminers will not be able to get cover al financial advice before you make

ıny decision. The Office of Fair Trading, in a re-Many employers have their own

The Office of Fair Trading, in a reschemes and Mike Turner, product—cent critical report, pointed out that manager protection at the insurer many people are over-insured, only Friends Provident recommends ask-finding out when they become ill that the full plan benefits will not be paid.

This is because they exceed the insurer's arbitrary limit of 50-60 per plus any State benefits. This particularly affects the self-employed who pay-their accountant to minimise their taxable income and then find that that is the figure their insurer will base its maximum benefit on.

Some insurers have a reputation for being particularly harsh when it comes to paying out yet, ironically, insurers' tests of disability are now

plied by the Department of Social Security for Incapacity Benefit.

Most insurers will pay a straightforward claim quickly and without fuss but problems can arise if the condition is difficult to prove-stress or a bad back for example. If you do have to claim, tell the insurer as soon as possible, be open and honest with them and expect to have periodic medical check-ups.

ical illness policies. There is usually no maximum benefit other than the insurer's overall limit and payment depends on proof of having the condition, not of being unable to

Ted Yeates, an independent financial adviser at Cheltenhambased Warwick Butchart Associates, recommends critical illness cover for mortgages, adding as much as you can afford on top of that.

Cover of four times your income or more is not unheard of but make sure that you can comfortably afford the cover Most people settle on two to three times their income.

Mike Turner says that many people choose to add the cover to their mortgage endowment policy and this can be the cheapest way of buying it. It only makes sense though if you really want a mortgage

Suffering a serious illness is more likely to happen when you are older rather than when you are younger. Even so, a man of working age is 20 times more likely to be off work ill for more than six months than he is to die before age 65, according to Permanent Insurance. At the age of 30 he has almost a one in three chance of suffering a heart attack,

cancer or stroke before age 65. By

vestments constantly, Mr

Kohn says. For instance, if reg-

ular savings into a fairly risky

investment have made good

gains, you could switch part of

it into a lower risk fund to safe-

guard your gains. "You may

conclude you don't need to

make any changes, but you

will still need to make re-

ment, you are more likely to

have substantial financial as-

sets. At that point most ad-

visers would tell you to invest

more cautiously, possibly using Gilts or other fixed-in-

come securities. Any down-

turn in the stock market

would be magnified by the

there would also be less time

for a temporary slump in

share prices to be ironed out

by a subsequent upturn. And

with only a few working years

left, you would be hard pushed

As you approach retire-

views," he says.

comparison, for a woman of the same age the risk is almost one in

Critical illness and income protection are, according to Ted Yeates, complementary rather than competing, but things would certainly be easier if insurers offered a single product to fully meet both the need for income and a hump sum.

In the meantime, if you have life assurance cover - and one out of sense to look at serious illness cover too in order to get both a lump sum and an income.

Warwick Butchart Associates on 01242 584144; Permanent Insurance on 01392 445555; Friends Provident on 01306 740123. Andy Couchmon is publishing editor of HealthCare Insurance Report'.

hail the liberation

You no longer have to lock up your deposits for months if you want a top rate of interest. By Tony Lyons

after your cash, competition has never been fiercer as instant-access, postal and telephone accounts

The move by the Office of Fair Trading to investigate the changes in interest paid on some fixed-term savings products, prompted by the ecent action of Northern Rock, is making financial institutions rethink how they treat their customers. The risk of them arbitrarily changing rates without notification and not indicating which accounts will pay the highest rates is now diminishing.

In addition, a new breed of deposit takers such as the supermarket chains can be added to the list of traditional homes for your money.

Next April the new Individual Savings Account, which will replace PEPs and Tessas, is being introduced. In the first year, we will be able to hold up to £3,000 in cash in the new tax-free medium.

After April 2000, we will only be able to put a maximum of £1,000 a year into an Isa deposit account. But already some of the savings institutions such as the Halifax and Yorkshire building societies are beginning to open what look like Isa-type accounts that pay good rates of interest on low balances.

We all need some rainy day money that we can easily lay our hands on. When it comes to looking after your cash, it used to be the case that if you were prepared to give one-, two- or three-months' notice before making withdrawals then you could expect a better rate of interest.

This remains true to some extent. If you look at everyday bank and building society instant access accounts, most will pay between 3.25 and 4 per cent for boldings of under amounts. But you can walk into any branch to make

deposits and withdrawals. However when you have to give 30 days' warning of a withdrawal, you can expect to earn 6.95 per cent with Bradford & Bingley or 6.75 per cent with the Royal Bank of

for £1,000 from the larger institutions. Some smaller deposit takers will pay up to 7.6 per cent.

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But today, it hardly seems worthwhile having to give notice of any withdrawals as there are now a number of instant access accounts that pay good rates of interest. One of the best comes from Safeway, the supermarket group. It operates a postal direct savings account which will accept balances from £50 and pays interest of 7.3 per cent on deposits of more than

Only just behind is Cheltenham & Gloucester's instant transfer telephoneoperated account, which pays 7.25 per cent, Scottish Widows Bank's postal account, which pays 7 per cent, and Standard Life Bank's instant telephone account, which pays 6.9 per cent. Most first-time Tessas are paying more than 6.5 per cent tax free, although Norwich & Peterborough and Bradford & Bingley building societies will pay 8 per cent for deposits of more than £100 and £500 respectively. All of these will vary with interest rates.

If you want a fixed rate of interest you will usually have to hand over £5,000 for at least one year. A number of building societies and banks will pay you between 7 and 7.5 per cent for one year and anything up to 7 per cent for five years on their fixed rate bonds. Basicrate tax-payers could also look at guaranteed income bonds. Longer-term investments attract a lower rate of interest - you could expect a touch more than 5 per cent for five

At weekends, The Independent and The Independent on Sunday publish tables showing the best savings rates.

Bradford & Bingley, 0800 Peterborough, 01733 372222; Royal Bank of Scotland, 0800 880880; Saferoay, 0800 995995; Standard Life Bank, 0345 555657; Scottish Widows Bank, 0845 845 0829; Cheltenham & Gloucester, 0800 742437; Pinnacle, 0181-207 9007; GE Financial Insurance, 0181-Scotland, two of the best rates · 380 3388.

Nothing ventured, nothing gained

DO YOU want to gamble with your life savings? Probably not. But while an outright bet may not be called for, taking certain risks with your money is necessary if you want to get

Deciding how you feel about risk is a key step before committing hard-earned savings to any investment prodinvestments you can make is putting your money into a building society deposit ac-count or National Savings products. But does it pay to do

بنتاب

Your return, after tax, on

If you want to your savings to make you richer, you have to be prepared to take risks. By Rachel Fixsen

ing Societies Association. If such as endowment policies you had been more daring and bought stocks, you could have made far more. If it had mirrored the FTSE-100 index uct. One of the lowest risk of leading shares, the same investment would now be worth £3,245, not including tax or dividends.

Between shares and building society deposits on the risk spectrum lies a wide range of

investment vehicles. Govern-£1,000 over the last 10 years ment bonds or Gilts give you would have £1,802.04 in an a fixed return and safeguard average building society ac-

THE INDEPENDENT Free guide to making the most of your investments sponsored by WESLEYAN Care single in the process of the constraint in Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms_ This the box if you would prefer not to receive further information on Wesleyan Assumates investment services.

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count, according to the Build- surance company products

and with-profit bonds keep your capital safe, but your return is subject to market conditions. With guaranteed equity products, such as protected unit trusts, you have no assurances about the level your income will be but most of your capital is safe.

Investing in shares, or equities, is risky compared to keeping your money in a deposit account, because share values fluctuate from day to day according to worldwide market conditions. Anything from an oil discovery in Asia to higher German unemployment can affect the value of UK stocks.

Putting your money in the shares of just one company can be very risky indeed. After nothing. But you can spread your risk with collective stock unit trusts, investment trusts or pension funds. These will perhaps a hundred different between funds. Your capital is safer in a fund which only holds shares of major UK vesting in small eastern European companies.

are good in the long-term, but people are very wary of equities because of the risk,"

says Jim Preston, of Wesleyan Financial Services. "The length of time you invest reduces the risk," he says.

Any stock market investment should be held for at least five years, experts advise. In the last 25 years, there have been no five-year periods in which the stock market has shown an overall negative return, according to figures from Principal Investment Management.

Emergency funds should not be in shares, but money you do not plan to use for at least 10 years could be. Your pension savings, unless you are close to retirement, might be invested in shares, and other long-term savings you make for retirement could be.

Roddy Kohn, of Bristolbased independent financial all, the firm could go bust at advisers Kohn Cougar, says he any time and leave you with uses an investment risk scale of nought to 10. Building society accounts are at the lower market investments, such as end, managed funds with a mix of assets including property, cash and equities are in allow you to own part of a fund the middle, and funds investwhich in turn holds shares in ing in the economies of Russia and emerging markets are companies. Risk levels vary rated 10. He encourages younger clients, in their 30s, to be risk-rated at six or eight.

"Where you've got 10 years companies than in one in- or more to invest, you ought to be more aggressive." he says. "The less money you "A key message is equities have the more aggressive you have to be in getting that money to grow," he adds.

It is vital to review your in-

to replace any lost savings. Judging just how risky a specific investment might be is a tricky art, and often best left to the professionals. A good independent financial adviser can help. The Independent has pub-

lished a free guide, Making Your Investments Work for You. The guide, which covers every aspect of financial planning, including paying off a mortgage, retirement and investment is sponsored by Wesleyan Financial Services. To obtain your copy, call 0800 1379749 or fill in the coupon on this page.

Kohn Cougar: 0117 9466384; Wesleyan Financial Services:

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Lousy landlords have it coming

LEASEHOLDERS REPRESENTING people all over Britain who have been abused by nightmare landlords are this week meeting with the parliamentary group of 55 MPs who are examining the issue of leasehold

The meeting comes just as Hilary Armstrong, the Housing Minister, has told Barry Gardiner, MP for Brent North and chairman of the group, that her department is send-ing out a consultation document which proposes that all leaseholders with cases in the county courts be allowed to transfer them to leasehold valuation tribunals, where costs cannot be awarded against tenants. The new measures are expected to come into force in August.

Four leaders of leasehold organisations will present case studies to the parliamentary group and call for the abolition of the present system in favour of commonholds, in which the leaseholder owns the freehold of the property on which a flat stands. They will also call for the right of all leaseholders to choose their own managing agents and for the latter to be governed by tight regulations.

The flatowners attending the meeting will include Stella Evans. head of the Coalition for the Abolition of Residential Leaseholders (CARL); the head of Freedom from Leasehold Abuse (FREELA); Paul Pritchard who runs the Freshwater Leasehold Alliance (FLA); and Ken Murray, chairman of a residents association representing hundreds of flatowners in Kent which is also part

Among the MPs in the parliamentary group are secretary Adrian Sanders, vice-chairs Edward Davy and Jan Fitzpatrick, treasurer Peter Bottomley, Jacqui Lait, Brian Iddon, Karen Buck.

Mr Murray says: "We're middleclass, we're law abiding and we've kept quiet for a long time. There is so much anger because we are dealing with people who wouldn't last five minutes in the free market."

His residents' association has refused to pay the estimated £144,000 levied by the managing agents for building works, after receiving an estimate from a local contractor which suggests it would cost less than half that amount.

Mr Murray adds: "The current leasehold system is institutionalised racketeering. It's an open invitation for people to help themselves to



As flatowners wait for a commonhold system, giving them the freehold of the property on which their flat stands, a number of changes could be introduced

ing to service charges and the ICA's

investigation committee is now ex-

plaints are about accountants who

seek services as we see fit and to pay for them as we see fit."

Nick Raynsford Minister for London and Construction, who addressed the parliamentary group at the last meeting, has a good understanding of leasehold problems and is assisting Hilary Armstrong to look at ways of overhauling the current leasehold system.

He told MPs that the Government is already considering whether there should be some form of control over managing agents.

Mr Raynsford added: "Standards of service can be unacceptably poor.

money. We're denied our right to There are strong arguments for responsible for producing service measures to ensure managing gents are competent and honest. He is particularly concerned that

managing agents who appear to be in a unique position of having the opportunity to hold substantial sums of other people's money without any requirement for bonding or insurance. His concern applies equally to landlords who manage their properties directly.

A leaseholder, who does not wish his name to be used, points out that it is not only managing agents who need to be tightly regulated, but the amining the matter. The main comaccountancy profession which is

fail to fulfil legal obligations relating to Sections 21 and 22 of the Landcharge accounts. He claims: "Selfregulation is not working. I want to lords & Tenants Act 1985. These require landlords to pro-

see a fully independent system of duce a summary of the service regulation for accountants like the charge accounts, supported by suf-Financial Services Act, which has ficient information, plus the right for teeth. Perhaps supervision of acleaseholders to view the original sercountants could be brought under vice charge accounts plus supportthe wing of the FSA. ing documents including invoices, The same leaseholder says a receipts, bank statements and number of accountants have been reported to the Institute of Charcheque stubs. tered Accountants on issues relat-

Mr Raynsford believes: "The balance of control between landlords and leaseholders is unfair and, in most cases, bears no relation to the respective shares of the equity in a countless leaseholders." Mr Raynsford says the Govern-

and sinking funds. All of these practices cause misery and anxiety to

ment's overall objective is to provide leaseholders with the opportunity to reap the full benefits of owner occupation and to have control over the way in which their homes are

Leaseholders addressing the allparliamentary group this week will also raise the issue of the problems that have arisen under the current system of collective enfranchise ment. This is when a group of leaseholders purchase the freehold together, but in many cases some of them get together, take control and buily the rest.

To avoid this - and as flatowners wait for a commonhold system to be introduced, giving flatowners the freehold of the property on which their flat stands - a number of interim changes could be introduced.

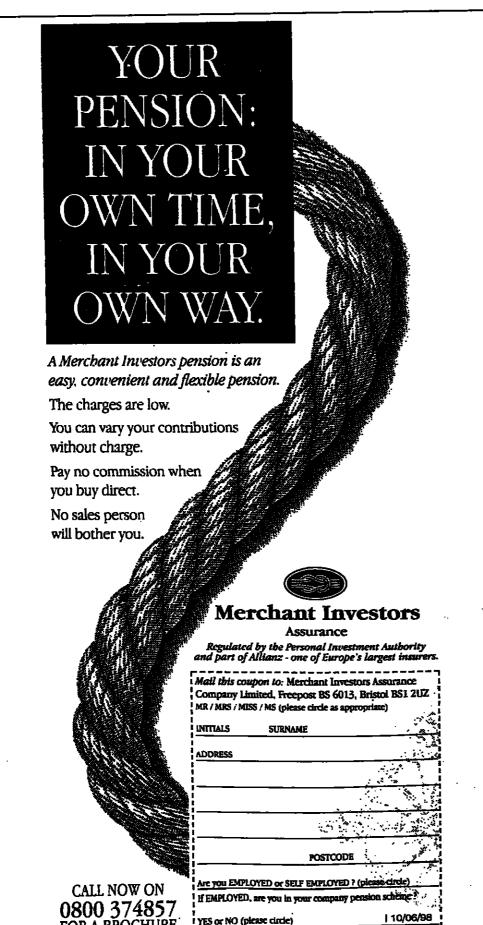
These include a legal requirement that every collective enfranchised block of 10 or less flats give each leaseholder the right to automatically become a director, for original service charge accounts and all supporting documentation to be made available for each leaseholder to examine or to arrange for an expert to scrutinise every financial year by giving 21 days' notice.

Campaigners say they are encouraged by the Government's determination to make it easier for leaseholders to question rogue landlords without paying out huge sums of money.

Plans to allow all leaseholders with cases in the county courts to transfer them to a Leasehold Valuation Tribunal, which does not award costs against tenants, is just a taste of the radical changes to come.

At the moment, service charge proceedings that were underway before 1 September 1997, when LVT's came into existence, cannot be transferred. This means many tenants are not benefiting from the new

Karen Woolfson welcomes comments for her column. Write to: Homebattles, c/o Nic Cicutti, Personal Finance section, 'The Independent', 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf London E14 5DL. Karen regrets she is there are the out-and-out criminals unable to reply personally to who misappropriate service charges of letters.



For a cautious investor, the advice is a spread with the chance of growth

building." This has resulted in a va-

riety of problems due to the signif-

icant number of landlords "whose

management styles range from the

incompetent to the criminal," over-

shadowing well-respected landlords.

scrupulous landlord who charges for

work that has not been done, or un-

dertakes works that are unneces-

sary. "Others pocket substantial

commission for insurance, with the

leaseholders left to pay the bill.

Others demand extortionate fees for

allowing minor alterations. Then

He highlights the more un-

AMANDA DAVIDSON

NIGEL CAME to see me the other day to ask for some investment advice. He is 66 and retired, with a good occupational pension scheme that increases in line with the retail price index each and every year. He has additional income from the state and another pension which means that his income is sufficient for his requirements.

He has no mortgage on his property and about £75,000 to invest, all of which is in cash. This investment leaves him sufficient cash in building societies and a Tessa for short-term needs and emergencies. The £75,000 he can comfortably tie up for a five-year-plus pe-

He has never invested in the stock market before. Nigel has some privatisation shares, but that is all. However, he feels that it is time that he looked at diversifying his investments.

Nigel is not pleased with the interest rate he is getting on his building society money, but is cautious about stock market investment. He needs advice on how to maximise his capital for capital growth without taking

giving the money a chance to grow. He might need some income in the future, or chunks of capital.

field it is most important

that the investments should be spread and different companies used where their products are competitive. Our solution was to advise Nigel on a spread of investments that would provide him with a good chance of capital growth and from

without problem if his circumstances were to change in the future. As Nigel has no personal equity plans (PEPs) at all this was a first consideration. We did not want to take high risks so we recommended a corporate bond

which he could take income

The recommendation for his investments was as fol-

Total - £75,000

Scottish Mutual offshore bond - £15,000 Prudential with-profits bond - £20,000M&G PEP - £6,000 Series of Unit Trusts -£34,000

Nigel is a borderline higher-rate taxpayer and the income that he had been receiving from his deposit sonable bonuses. Basic-rate accounts was tipping him taxpayers pay no tax on enover into a higher-rate tax cashment (providing the bracket.

Therefore a PEP was a first consideration, as any income he would take from this and indeed any capital ,would be tax-free. A corporate bond PEP limits the risk exposure, although

with this type of investment. In spite of being a "low risk" PEP, the importance of good management is as important As this is Nigel's first as with higher-risk PEPs. foray into the investment Performance can vary dra-

matically, so this was taken

into consideration. The offshore bond sounds a little exotic, but in reality this type of investment is a legitimate choice. From a risk exposure point of view, the Scottish Mutual Safety Plus fund carries a quarterly underpinning, whereby only

tential upside is not over-sacrificed for this type of security. The advantage of the offshore bond is that Nigel can choose exactly when he brings money into this country, such as when his tax rate is at the basic rate rather than at 40 per cent. This puts

Nigel in control of the tax he

a portion of the investment

is exposed to risk and the po-

A with-profits bond is a cautious type of investment where bonuses would only be at risk if Nigel were to encash the investment at a time when conditions were adverse. What is important is to choose a good provider, such as Prudential, which has demonstrated a good track record and the ability to continue to declare rea-

gain does not tip them over the higher-rate threshold.)
Higher-rate taxpayers benefit from being able to take 5 per cent withdrawals for a 20-year period on which they pay no tax. As part of Nigel's income does not in-

extraordinary risks, but still there is a degree of risk crease, it is likely that in the future he will be comfortably out of higher-rate tax.

A series of unit trusts was spread between various companies such as Fidelity, Perpetual and Gartmore and was also spread geographically using the companies concerned in areas where they are competitive.

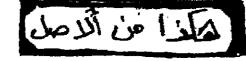
This was the most risky part of Nigel's portfolio. Some of the investments were in trackers and others in actively managed funds, again to give a further spread. By restricting investments to the UK only, Nigel would lose out on any growth worldwide.

The unit trusts also meant that Nigel could use his capital gains tax allowance of £6,800, which up until now he has not been

Thus we have created for Nigel a tax-efficient portfolio without overly risking his investments. Should one area of investment let him down, he has sufficient other weather the storms.

Should Nigel's circumstances change in the future, he would be able to take a regular income from many of the investments that we have advised. In addition, the investments are completely liquid in the event that he wished to realise them, although we would recommend for any of these types of investments a fiveyear view, which accorded with Nigel's wishes.

Amanda Davidson is a partner at Holden Meehan, independent financial advisers (0171 6921700).



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WORK **FOR**

NICK HAYMES IS ASSISTANT TO PHOTOGRAPHER JUERGEN TELLER

WAS about to study photography at college when a stylist told me that I would learn the techniques three times as fast if I went to work in a studio.

It was while I was working at Click studios that I got to know Juergen Teller, and when his assistant left I asked him for a job. My technical ability was pretty diabolical so I guess he employed me because we hit it off

My first big job for him was the Eternity campaign and it was a nightmare because I knew so little. I sweated my way through the 11-hour plane journey, clutching the cameras and manuals and learning how to load a camera in under 15 seconds.

Juergen has a very distinct personal style, and I quickly learnt to read his mind and anticipate his needs.

My first few months included fashion shoots for Calvin Klein, Katharine Hammett and Hugo Boss and two years on, Juergen still wows me with the way he can push a fashion campaign to its limits. It's frustrating when a company asks for a clean-cut wholesome image and ignores his own idea of

I can be with Juergen from seven in the morning to 11 at night, seven days a week, which causes a lot of grief with my girlfriend who claims he's my first love. It is rather like being married to him.

Although we have a laugh together. I still have to be the most organised person on the job. I've got to make sure that we've got the right equipment and I'm the one who wakes everyone up at five in the

Juergen's photography has become more personal since his baby was born. All I seem to do now is cut out pictures of his girlfriend, who's a stylist with the team, and their baby. I've even gone baby shopping for him. He's a

Juergen tends to work with models he knows, so there's always a rapport; for example, he used Kate Moss from the start of her career.

We are always very grateful about travelling to beautiful places - if that wonderment went the work would be pointless. We were with Donatella Versace the other day and, although it was just part of the job, we were still amazed to be there.

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Juergen always treats me like an equal and makes sure I am at the dinner table with him, not hidden away like a serf. I would never work for anyone else. It's a real apprenticeship - and he encourages me to take my own pictures. This month I had my photographs printed in Dozed and Confused.

If I didn't want to push my own career, I might as well go back to my old job of planting

Interview: Katie Sampson

It is a networkers' paradise: even the e-mail system cannot kill off the smoking room. By Rachelle Thackray



The lure of the smoking room is partly the natural fraternity that comes with being ostracised by the majority. 'It's like a secret little club,' says one smoker

No smoke without gossip

GOSSIP IS the opiate of the op- such as golf courses, ladies' loos and little coterie which shares a vice and pressed, said the American novelist gentlemen's clubs. With the cam-Erica Jong in 1973. Writing 100 years earlier, the more moralistic George Eliot noted: "Gossip is a sort of smoke that comes from the dirty tobacco-pipes of those who diffuse it: it proves nothing but the bad taste of the smoker."

Taste aside, it's undeniable that the two - gossip and smoking - are constant bedfellows, underlined by a phrase such as "No smoke without fire" becoming a synonym for the act their emphasis on informal netof gossiping. Both have a slightly working exchange of information in seedy surreptitious image, with par- a semi-private environment and, of ticipants who are ostracised by a course, the chance to refresh primmer majority often gravitating emplified by one legendary Derby company whose employees understood the siege mentality: smokers were forced to retreat with their nico- Sex at Work, believes that employtime sticks to a red square painted by

One journalist, who takes four or a furtive environment. "You have this five fag breaks each working day, explains: "Smokers form a natural fraternity, and you talk to people in a smoking room who you wouldn't normally talk to. During the time when a lot of changes were going on at the newspaper I work for, people came in here who didn't even smoke, It's like a secret little club, an informal meeting. You can see who's in the room, and there's a sort of lovalty. Whereas you'd never put something in an e-mail that you wouldn't shout across a crowded

room." Years ago, before it became unfashionable to smoke, addicts would puff away at their desks, while private chat was confined to forums

paign in recent decades to eradicate smoking in the workplace, smokers have been driven into a corner, but many have turned that to their

Smoking rooms - known as "sinbins" in companies all over the UK - have evolved something of a conspiratorial culture, one which, ironically enough, is emulated in the design of new-look "buzz bars", with those little grey cells with a shurp of

Judi James, a management trainer who recently published a survey with the Industrial Society entitled that you just have to get on with it. ee relations - both personal and bosses at the back of the office yard. business-related - actually thrive in

which bonds together; it's a similar environment to a school common room. It's not like e-mails, where people are paranoid that everybody can read them." The trend for employees to eat

lunch at their desks, she argues, has increased the popularity of other outlets such as smoking rooms and informal meeting places. "People used to cluster round the tea-trolley, but there's no scope for that these days. Even if you go down to the wine bar or pub for lunch, you often can't hear yourself speak. But some companies get worried when staff get together informally. With what I call 'corporate anorexia' where staff are the jobs of two or three people, there seems to be an unspoken rule

"On my training courses, people often say they've never spoken to each other, even though they only work 100 yards apart. I have to give them time to get their gripes and grumbles out of the way. A lot of companies are bringing in counsellors if you've got a problem, but you have to ring them up, and that's not networking."

In other companies, informality is carefully nurtured. Mike Klein of London Business School, who has just completed a survey on internal communication, cites one USaffiliated pharmaceutical company which seemed to thrive upon "water-cooler conversation": "This company moved people round very rapidly, so you had these informal networks. But it came to the point where everybody assumed that would get round quickly enough, and sometimes staff would actually have no idea of what colleagues on the other side were doing." To some, this seemed

completely unprofessional Some employees may believe the keys to power are to be found among

rector of general management programmes at Cranfield School of Management, says that's not the case: "Most networking which makes any difference is done on a senior management level. Smoking rooms are more of a social club than anything else. Generally speaking, networking is not to do with the exchange of good practice; in fact, it's usually to do with what you can do for yourself."

Opinions differ on whether comsmoking rooms. Martin Ball, a spokesman for the smoking rights organisation Forest, estimates there are still 15 million adult smokers in Britain, and predicts that companies are keen to bring smokers back into the office fold by installing sophisticated ventilation systems to get rid of any health risks.

"The trend towards total prohibition is reversing, because a lot of

the ashtrays. But David Butcher, di-problems follow from throwing the smokers outside. It doesn't mean they will stop smoking; they merely change their patterns of behaviour," Mr Ball says.

But others argue that, despite relatively few companies being prosecuted by non-smokers for their smoking policies (or lack of them), smoking will never again be acceptable in the workplace. Samantha Sandford of ASH, the

anti-smoking organisation, says: "There has been a steady decline in panies should continue to have smoking since the 1970s, and the majority of smokers want to give up. Having a no-smoking policy in the workplace provides that incentive."

Mike Klein believes that new electronic systems will be the key to harnessing networking potential: "The next smoking room is going to be the intranet [internal message system). People are going to figure out who their kindred spirits are in the company, and use this as a reference group upon which to network The smoking room has been a great social equaliser, but there will be more far-reaching consequences as companies figure out what they are going to do about intranets."

But Doug Gummery, health and

Millenzium, smoke-filled rooms and cubbyholes are disappearing. Nevertheless, some companies are com-

AS COMPANIES move towards an open-plan

pensating. Asda, for instance, has instructed employees at its Leeds beadquarters to put on a special red baseball cap if they don't want to be disturbed.

There are also informal meeting rooms with sofas rather than tables and chairs. Spokesman Phil Reed says: "We try and get away from two- or three-hour meetings, which are not necessarily very productive."

British Telecom called in award-winning firm Aukett Associates to redesign its City headquarters: it now has a spacious atrium, along with coffee bars, breakout space, "buzz bars" on all floors and connectivity benches where employees or visitors can plug in laptops and telephone chargers.

The information exchange of the future

Vivian Fowler, one of Aukett's directors, has worked for several large companies including Glaxo, British Airways and Autoglass. She says: "What we have realised in dealing with these companies is that people are in meetings all day and the one chance

they get to exchange information is when they are getting a cup of coffee." Yvonne Danson of Hewlett Packard con-

cars. She says the company integrated smoking rooms into the original design of its headquarters, but that an open-door policy and sophisticated intranet system are also paying dividends.

"Our new building in Bristol has an atrium and a lovely coffee area, rather like a high-class shopping mail. People don't sit there for hours and hours; you just have a coffee and then you're off again."

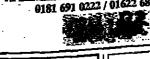
safety adviser for the Institute of Personnel and Development (IPD), believes there will always be a place for covert whispering. "We are talking about people being social animals and needing to communicate; they like to gossip. People are reluctant to put their ideas on the intranet because they may be misconstrued: they trust each other more when they are speaking face

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MEN. CAN'T live with them, can't get access to the remote control. It's not that I don't have some fondness for the little darlings, with their rough-hewn hysteria, all that jostling for pride of place like bullocks in a pen, the comic relief they provide. But seriously, what with the Olympics, the World Cup, Euro 90whatever, motor-racing, golf, Wimbledon, the Test matches and other big events in the world calendar, it's amazing any of them get any work done at all. They have a television in my office. I

don't know if this is a normal piece of office furniture, but as there's a potted plant on top of it and occasionally someone flicks up Teletext to consult share prices, I think it is. But what it is over the course of the next month is a source of resentment for the women as suddenly half their colleagues develop an inviolable interest in the fate of the Faroe Islands, Ukraine, Iran, even France. I mean, the Afghan earthquake gets half a column buried deep in the Sun and Gazza getting sacked gets six full pages: 5,000 dead versus one dead drunk. The only way they would have got more coverage would have been if their football team had been involved. In fact, they probably were. But as they weren't playing England it doesn't really matter.

The thing about football is that it provides endless excuses for shirking. Get yourself into a lads' office and you're guaranteed several more days off a year than your female colleagues, even if it is taken in dribs and drabs. And it's so transparent. Have you ever watched the men in an office while the footie's on? Have you ever noticed how much longer up and walking across the room so you understand why they didn't get a penal- water to that poor, irradiated pot plant.



THE TEMP

can pause for five minutes by the screen on the way back? A document needs copying? Do it a page at a time. Got a water cooler? Develop severe dehydration. Female colleagues getting stroppy? Ignore them: this is bonding, and it's more important than any deadline.

Girls: if any of this sounds familiar to you, if you've found yourself doing even more than the usual more than your fair share of work in the last week, it's time for some guerrilla warfare. Get those fatis the Temporary Guide to sabotaging football in the workplace:

that hard; some women swear by it. But for the purposes of the exercise, try to learn as little about the game as possible while seeming to wish to learn. Then

ty if the man in the green shirt touched the ball", "But it hit the bar and bounced in. Surely he doesn't get a whole point for that?" and "So the ones in the striped shorts are the goodies?" until your colleagues are driven back to their desks. 2) Memorise catchlines employed by

those watching games. Wait until everyone is working quietly, then take turns to leap to your feet and shout "Go on, my son!", "What a goal!" and "Yes, Yes! YESSS!". Should guarantee, if nothing else, a few coffee burns. 3) Remember: TV companies fill the

schedule holes during World Cup with excellent black-and-white movies. Time the amount of time the football is on each day and insist on parity for Bette Davis. Then gather round the screen going "He's given her a mink. I bet she shoots him in the last reel."

4) Use that stopwatch again. Record the amount of time football watchers waste standing, coffee-holding arm crossed over their belly, other hand jiggling coins in their pocket, in front of the screen/gathered round the radio. Divide this time by the number of non-football watchers. All non-participants should then add this amount of time to their lunch hour. With any luck, you'll be out 'til four for the rest of the month.

5) Whenever footie comes on, all feigues on, girls, and go underground: here male employees to get out nail varnish, face packs, hair glop etc and gather in large group to discuss, use and spray 1) Develop an interest in football. Not around. If they can ruthlessly manipu-

late a gender stereotype, then so can you. 6) if all else fails (and because of the risk to life both from electrocution and subsequent violence, this is an extreme chores take, how much more standing stand by the screen and go, "But I don't measure), give a very generous drink of sp m

My children just don't speak the same language

Nicky Maitlis and her husband want their children to be bilingual. It can be a slog at times, but it's worth it

WHILE OTHER couples relax with a newspaper at the end of the day, you will find me hunched over my sons' tape recorder, swotting up the words to yet another verse of "Le Bon Roi Dagobert", so I can sing along in French. Is this song really about a king who puts his underpants on backwards? I fast-forward the tape. which uncannily stops at Tai du bon tabac" - only a Gauloise-puffing nation could possibly incorporate smoking into a children's nursery rhyme. My husband Paul is from a French-speaking family and we are trying to bring up our children, Simon, 21 months, and Daniel, five months, to be bilingual.

Paul thought I was mad when I enrolled Simon in the Lycée Français Charles de Gaulle, the only French state school in London, four months before he was even born. Strangely enough, I'm the one who is completely obsessed with making sure the children learn French. Paul takes his bilingualism for granted because speaking French comes so naturally to him. But I slogged my way through a degree in Modern Languages so I know what it's like to have to work hard in order to speak a language fluently. I'm thrilled at the thought of my kids effortlessly absorbing French, I'm determined not to let them miss out on this opportunity. especially as my own bilingual father did not bring us up speaking Ger-

Cohn Baker, Professor of Education at the University of Wales, Bangor, and author of A Parents' and Teachers' Guide to Bilingualism (Multilingual Matters, £9.95) believes parents should adopt a structured approach when raising children bilingually. "They should discuss which languages they intend to speak to their children before they have them - a sort of 'language family planning".

So Paul and I started by following the "one-parent-one-language" system, where each parent speaks to the children in a different lan-



Children at the Lycee Charles de Gaulle in London. Pupils from bilingual families do not get confused,' says the head

French and I in English). But since the boys spend most of their time with me if Paul is home late or abroad, there are days when they don't hear any French at all. So, going against all advice, I began to sing and read to Simon and Daniel

On a day trip to Paris, I dashed

guage and sticks to it (Paul in out halfway through a sumptuous family lunch in search of children's books, CDs and cassettes of nursery rhymes. I played these so often that after a couple of months I had learned more than 100 songs off by

> Thanks to one verse of the song the construction industry is good -

(chevrons) - which could prove useful if we ever buy a house in France. Friends are astonished when I pass up the opportunity to watch Grosse Pointe Blank on video as I am currently glued to Le Manège Enchanté (The Magic Roundabout) in

beams (poutres) and rafters my French so fluent but what about Simon and Daniel?

I am consoling myself with the knowledge that bilingual children often speak late. though I was secretly delighted when at 18 months. Simon said his first word, "gris" (grey). "Where on earth could he "Cadet Rousselle", my vocabulary of the original black and white French have picked up such a useless word?" asked my mother Only I St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, version. Paul says he's never known

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knew my French nursery rhyme brain-washing technique was work-

Andrew Buurman

Like many bilingual families, we're finding it's a continual struggle making sure the children really get the chance to practise their second language. Dr Gideon Lack, Consultant in Paediatric Allergies at

being trilingual (English, French and Hebrew) sends his bilingual sons to a summer camp in Switzerland where only French is spoken. "In England, they are less keen to speak French because none of their friends do and they are the odd ones out."

I sometimes worry whether Simon and Daniel will simply end up dazed and confused, speaking neither language properly. After all, how can Simon possibly distinguish be-tween his French nickname "chou chou" (poppet) and the English word "shoe" which sound similar? But at the Lycée Français Charles de Gaulie in London, the headmaster, Jean-Michel Fouquet, is encouraging. "Many of our pupils are from bilingual families and we find they do not get confused; they seem to be able to differentiate between whom they are talking to and in which language.

Marjukka Grover set up the Bilin-gual Family Newsletter 15 years ago because she wanted to discover more about bilingualism when she was raising her own children to speak Finnish and English. "The newsletter gives parents a chance to share their questions and concerns about bringing up their children in multi-lingual environments. Our subscribers are from all over the world and though the languages may be different, the worrles are often the

As I read Le Petit Ours Brun for the sixth time before putting Simon to bed, I fantasise how, if I had put as much effort into boning up on Samuel Beckett and Sartre at Cambridge as I do in reading Simon's French stories, I might even have got

Readers can receive a free copy of the Bilingual Family Newsletter before subscribing. Write to: Multilingual Matters, Frankfurt Lodge, Clevedon Hall, Victoria Road, p&p cheque to Multilingual Matters Ltd.

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The London Career Day once again makes a welcome return on June 24th where you can give your career a summer makeover.

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As well as constructive advice there are hundreds of London's fatest job opportunities, some of which are never advertised, as that there are numerous competitions to enter, free prize draws and numerous givesways as well as plenty of free drip hibbles throughout the day.

This particular show will be of special interest to first and second Jobbers with both magazines officing advice and choosing your career and how to get that important start. So pop along and spend a couple of hours at the London Career Day where you will find the perfect start to spice up your till this summer. Summer.

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Covent Garden tubes) • Open 9am - 7pm • Refreshments available • Admission Pre-

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December Petition

NEW FILMS

NOWHERE (18) Director: Gregg Araki

Starring: James Duval, Rachel True, Nathan Bexton, Shannon Doherty

One-man film factory Gregg Araki returns to the nihilistic landscape of Totally F ** ed Up with another hallucinatory journey through an LA underground inhabited by young ambisexual drifters, sado-masochists, druggies, airheads - and, this time around, a few aliens for good measure.

It's good to see the elegantly wasted James Duval, as alienated teen Dark Smith, returning to his low-budget roots with Araki after a starring role in Independence Day. Intoxicating stuff.

RED CORNER (15)

Director: Jon Avnet Starring: Richard Gere, Bai Ling, Bradley Whitford Richard Gere usually exercises a bit of discrimination when choosing his projects, but his very public pro-Tibet stance must have blinded him to the failings of this clunking piece of anti-Chinese propaganda

In Beijing to sell trashy American TV programmes to a Chinese network, Gere finds himself framed for murder and railroaded by the brutal legal system. But the insights Red Corner offers into the Chinese brand of totalitarianism are swamped by the cliched depiction of ruthless party cadres (they practically say "We have ways of making you talk") and repetitive courtroom scenes, which mostly revolve around the issue of whether Gere can hear the simultaneous translation of proceedings through his headset.

DAD SAVAGE (18)

Director: Betsan Morris Evans Starring: Patrick Stewart, Kevin McKldd, Helen McCrory, Joe McFadden, Marc Warren

Patrick Stewart sheds his Stor Trek image to play Dad Savage, a tulip-growing, Country & Westernobsessed East Anglian crime boss who turns very nasty indeed when two of his employees try to run dance Film Festival - the film never steers suffioff with his life savings.

Strikingly shot in the bleak expanses of the Lincolnshire fens by first-time director Betsan

Morris Evans, this is an original stab at re-inventing the British thriller. There are strong performances, but a Usual Suspects-inspired structure of flashbacks within flashbacks conspires to make a raw, brutal little story frustratingly hard to follow.

THE TASTE OF CHERRY (PG) Director: Abbas Kiarostami

Starring: Homevon Ershadi. Adolhossein Bagheri, Afshin Bakhtiari

The joint winner of last year's Palme d'Or has taken a year to get a release over here, and it's not hard to see why. In précis - an Iranian man drives around the outskirts of Tehran looking for someone to help him commit suicide - it sounds like the average multiplex-goer's worst nightmare of an art movie. But thanks to naturalistic performances and director Abbas Kiarostami's pure shooting style, it's hypnotic and moving.

THE WEDDING SINGER (12) Director: Frank Coraci

Starring: Adam Sandler, Drew Barrymore A shamelessly dumb but very winning comedy about a hopelessly romantic wedding singer who

The 1985 setting allows for wonderfully grotesque fashions and a stream of terrible songs and retro in-jokes. And where else could you see Steve Buscerni singing Spandau Ballet?

falls in love with a waitress (Drew Barrymore),

only to find that she's engaged to someone else.

HURRICANE STREETS (15)

Director: Morgan J Freeman Starring: Brendan Sexton III, Shawn Elliot Brendan Sexton III, who made an impression as the high-school bully in Welcome to the Dollhouse, is touchingly awkward as Marcus, a 15-year-old New Yorker, whose criminal lifestyle is offset by an almost saintly care for the no-hopers in his gang. But despite raw performances from the young unknowns, and a sheaf of awards from the Sunciently clear from the usual kids and crime clichés.

John Wrathali

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

لمكذا عن ألاصل

Film Ryan Gilbey In spirit, Do The Right Thing (left) is

The Battle of Algiers relocated to Brooklyn. It focuses on the escalating racial conflicts on the hottest day of the year. The mood is first sultry, then menacing, finally incendiary - the film feels like it was directed by a timebomb. Of course, Spike Lee has long since combusted, but back then he could have taken on the world and won. National Film Theatre, SE1 (0171-928 3232) 8.45pm

Fans of the full-blooded excess of early Pedro Almodovar films will thrill to the prologue of his new feature, Live Flesh, where a ramshackle birth on a crosstown bus ends in an umbilical cord being chewed off. Almodovar has recently expressed an urge to reinvent himself and while Live Flesh exchanges his frivolous and flighty style for a more restrained, contemplative coolness, the picture crystallises many of his earlier themes.

Theatre Dominic Cavendish

Tim Supple is already putting his new resident company at the Young Vic to good use with a Twelfth Night that boasts enough global sounds to make Andy Kershaw purt with pleasure. Hurdy-gurdy, gu zheng, sorungi - you name it, they're all there to conjure an Illyria in which identities and affections are in dreamy flux. There are times when the ethereal noises risk lulling you to sleep, but strong performances - particularly from Robert Bowman as Malvolio - supply the electric shocks. 7.30pm, Young Vic., London, SE1 (0171-928 6363) to 25 Jul The legendary set-designer Ralph Koltai wisely chose a short play by Tennessee Williams (right), Suddenly

Last Summer, with which to make his belated directorial debut - at the age of 73. This mercurial tale of a mother's attempts to have her niece lobotomised in order to gag horrifying revelations about the death of her gay son almost demands a bold visual concept. And Koltai delivers admirably: the characters carry out their psychological warfare in front of a giant head. Linda Marlowe stars as the dastardly matriarch. Nottingham Playhouse (0115 947 0882)



Literature

Judith Palmer

Peter Carey, Peter Carey, Where have you been? I've been up to London to visit the Queen. As this year's winner of the Commonwealth Writers Prize, Carey (right) got the traditional celebratory audience at Buckingham Palace yesterday morning - a tricky fixture for the novelist, one of Australia's staunchest republicans.

There's a chance to ask how he fared in his Royal conversation, when he reads tonight from his Victorian thriller Jack Moggs, the captivating yarn of a vengeful convict and a society-novelist turned amateur mesmerist. Blackwells, 100 Charing Cross Rd, London WC2 (0171-292 5100) 7pm Admission free

Wild Swans has sold eight million copies, been voted number-one non-fiction book of the century in a Waterstones-Channel 4 poll, and still the public appetite for Jung Chang continues unabated. Again tonight, Chang relives her epic personal history into exile, from Chinese red guard to peasant, doctor to steelworker, in a powerful series of nightmare memories. British Library (Conference Centre), 96 Euston Rd, London NW1 (0171-412 7222) £4/£2.50 concs 6.15pm

Comedy James Rampton

For many, improvisation seems rather passe. Through thick and thin over the last decade, however, The Comedy Store Players have carried

on improving - to audiences who lap up their off-the-top-of-the-head routines. One of their number, Neil Mullarkey, has even landed a role in a movie playing... you guessed it... an improv artist. Tonight's line-up includes Tony Hawks, Doon Mackichan and Josie Lawrence (right) . Comedy Store, London SW1 (0171 344 4444) Another group of comedy performers to have copped more than their fair share of flak over the years is **The Cambridge** Footlights, often criticised for their self-

9.15pm

hired a respected director - Cal McCrystal - to put them through their paces for their latest show, Between a Rock and a Hard Place. Cambridge Arts Theatre (01223 503333) to 20 Jun

indulgence. This year they have a more professional appearance, having

GENERAL RELEASE

AFTERGLOW (15)

Two couples - fiftysomethings Nick Noite and Julie Christie, and twentysomethings Lara Flynn Boyle and Jonny Lee Miller - swap partners and wry aphorisms in the latest rbane romantic comedy from writer-director Alan Rudolph.

ANASTASIA (U)

In this new animated feature, all geographical identity has been jettisoned along with historical accuracy - and, for that matter, sanity, logic and good taste. Anastasia is as bullying and unruly as Disney animation at its worst.

AS GOOD AS IT GETS (15) Jack Nicholson and Helen Hunt are thrown together in a film which benefits from the sparkiness of James L Brooks' writing and the crackling energy of the cast.

THE BIG LEBOWSKI (18) 26-14 (18-14)

"Dude" Lebowski (Jeff Bridges) is a long-haired relic from the 1970s who spends his days burnning around Los Angeles getting stoned and going bowling with his buddies. But there's another Lebowski in the vicinity and a case of mistaken

BLUES BROTHERS 2000 (PG)

Eighteen years after the release of the startlingly unfunny The Blues Brothers, John Landis and his co-writer Dan Aykroyd have contrived usesurrect the story of Elwood Blues (Aykroyd) who, after the death of his brother, re-emerge from prison and decides to put the old band back together. The film is certainly all-out stupid, but it is also rather endearing.

THE BUTCHER BOY(15) Neil Jordan's film of Patrick McCabe's blackly comic novel about a maniac, precocious 12-year old in 1960s Ireland has a macabre thrill about it that is genuinely seductive. Jordan's depiction of the world as seen through the deranged eyes of young Francie (the astounding Eamonn Owens) is so rich and unsparing that it pulls you into the movie in the manner of a Grimm fairytale.

Alex Provas, director of The Crow, returns with with another over the top urban nightmare.
Amnesiac suspected serial killer Rufus Sewell
is pursued by dour inspector William Hurt,
syringe wellding psychiatrist Kiefer Sutherland and Richard O'Brien as one of a sinister breed of aliens known as The Strangers'.

DECONSTRUCTING HARRY (18) Woody Allen's most honest and intelligent film in more DEEP MPACT (12)

A meteor the size of New York is on a collision course with the Earth unless superstar astronaut Robert Duvall and his team can intercept it. Ropey characterisation and the complete absence of wit or energy are only the worst things about this heavy-handed disaster movie.

FISTS IN THE POCKET (NC) A new print of Marco Bellochio's 1965 classic.

John Boorman's best film in two decades charts the career of Dublin gangster Martin Cahill, who ran rings round the Gardai with a series of heists before the IRA put him out of business in 1994.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (15) Dickens update with Ethan Hawke.

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booking fee).

THE HANGING GARDEN (15) Gay bero, Sweet William, returns home for the wedding of his sister (Kerry Fox), who is marrying the boy that William once had a crush on, in this disarming drama

Giddy tour of modern urban life, structured around the violently unpredictable romance

between two men who arrive in Argentina from Hong Kong, and fall into a cycle of breaking up and making up.

JACKIE BROWN (15)

In Jackie Brown, the eponymous flight attendant (Pam Grier) and mobster Ordell (Samuel L Jackson) whom she's moonlighting for take centre stage. But the movie's main focus is the desperation of each of its characters to make something of their lives before it's too late. A new direction for director Tarantino, which may appeal to an audience be previously alienated.

LIVE FLESH (18) A novel by Ruth Rendell is the unlikely origin of Pedro Almodovar's most accomplished film to date, though the action has been shifted to Madrid and crammed with sexual symbolism so potent it leaves you reeling.

Adrian Lyne's remake of Kubrick's stylish Nabokov adaptation lacks spirit and adventure.

LOVE ETC (15) The meandering French drama stars Charlotte Gainsbourg as a woman torn between her husband and his best friend.

THE MAGNIFICENT AMBERSONS (U) A welcome re-release for Orson Wells' 1942 near-masterpiece about a wealthy family whose

conflicting emotions tear them apart. MARTHA - MEET FRANK, DANIEL & LAURENCE (15)

This intermittently engaging romantic comedy sees Martha, an American visiting London on a whim, going on separate dates with three men who turn out to be best friends.

MY SON THE FANATIC (15)
Hanif Kureishi establishes an opposition be-tween an agreeable, progressive Pakistani taxi driver and his son, who has his sights set on becoming a fundamentalist Muslim. ONCE UPON A TIME... WHEN WE WERE

COLORED(NC) Nostalgic look back to life in 1940s Mississippi THE REAL BLONDE (15)

The HEAL SLONDE (15)
The Dicillo's prickly saure on the fashion industry doesn't have enough original or incidental ideas to go around, but it is charmingly played by a game cast, and littered with surprises and fizzy one-liners. SLIDING DOORS (15)

Sliding Doors is a romantic comedy set in the space-time continuum, sending its heroine, Gwyneth Paltrow, off into two separate realities at the same time, with two different suitors at the same time, with two times and stated (John Hannah and John Lynch). Just what the world needed: a humorous reinterpretation of STAR KID (PG)

Amiable children's adventure about a young boy (Joseph Mazello from Jurussic Park)
who's called upon to save the universe. What it
lacks in budget, it makes up for in imagination.

Rose (Kate Winslet) is about to marry into obscene wealth, but has deserted her fiance at the last minute for Jack (Leonardo DiCaprio), a ragamuffin from the wrong side of the tracks.

LES YOLEURS (18) Intriguing and complex French thriller with the fine Daniel Auteuil as a seedy cop who becomes involved with a case implicating a teacher (Catherine Deneuve) and her lover.

WASHINGTON SQUARE (PG) Bringing up the rear of the latest Henry James boom comes the story of the mousy New York heiress (Jennifer Jason Leigh) whose dour father (Albert Finney) forbids her marriage to dashing but penniless suitor (Ben Chaplin).

4221; Phoenix 0181-444 6789;

Plaza 0990-888990; Renoir 837

8402: Richmond Filmbouse

0181-332 0030; Ritzy 733 2229;

Screen on Baker St 935 2772;

3520; Screen on the Hill 435

3366; UCI Whiteleys 0990-888

990; Virgin Chelsea 0870-907

0870-907 0711; Virgin Hay-market 0870-907 0712; Virgin

0710; Virgin Fulhem Boad

Trocadero 0870-907 0716:

Warner Village West End

Screen on the Green 226

WISHMASTER (18) Pretentious but turgid gorefest.

WEST END NUMBERS

369 1721; Curzon West End 369 1722; Empire Leicester Sq 0990-888990; Gate Notting

Hill 727 4043; Metro 734 1506;

Notting Hill Coronet 727

6705; Odeon Camden Town

market 0181-315 4212; Odeon Kensington 0181-315 4214;

Odeon Leicester Sq 0181-315

4215; Odeon Marble Arch

nine 0181-315 4215; Odeon

0181-915 4216; Odeon Mezza

Swiss Cottage 0181-315 4220; Odeon West End 0181-315

0181-315 4229; Odeon Hay-

CINEMA WEST END

AFTERGLOW (15) Screen on Baker Street 2.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm Clapham Picture House 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Phoenix Cinema 3.45pm, 8.45pm Odeon Haymarket 2pm, 6pm, 8.35pm

Screen on the Green 3.35pm, 8.35pm

AS GOOD AS IT GETS (15) Virgis Felham Road 6pm, 9.10pm ABC Panton Street 2pm, 5pm, 8pm THE BIG LEBOWSKI (18)

Warner Village West End 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm UCI White-leys 6.10pm ARC Panton Street 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Virgin Fulham Road 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.30pm ABC Tottenham Court Road 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Odeon Camden Town 12.35pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.45pm Screen on the Green 6.10pm Phoenix Cinema 1.15pm, 6.15pm

BLUES BROTHERS 2000

3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9pm DAD SAVAGE (18) Warner Village West End 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm ABC Pic-cadilly 1.15pm, 3.35pm, 6.05pm,

DARK CITY (15)

Ritzy Cinema 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9.10pm Plaza 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Warner Village West End 11.55am, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 9.20pm UCI Whiteleys 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Odeon Camden 4.30pm, 19th, 9.30pm deather canada frown 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 6.55pm, 9.05pm Virgin Trocadero 12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Odeon Marbie Arch 11.40am, 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm

DECONSTRUCTING HARRY ABC Shaftesbury Avenue 1.30pm.

3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm

DEEP SAPACT (12) UCI Whiteleys 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Virgin Trecadero 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.40pm Empire Leicester Square 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm Virgin Fulham Road 12.30pm, 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm Odeon Marble Arch 12.10pm, 3.05pm. 5.55pm, 8.50pm

THE GENERAL (15) UCI Whiteleys 3.05pm, 6.20pm Virgin Haymarket 2.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Ritzy Cinema 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm; (+ Q & A with John Booman + Two Nudes Bathing) Notting Hill Curpoet 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Odeon Camden Town 12.05pm, 2.55pm, 5.55pm, 8.45pm Virgin Futham Road 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 9pm

GOOD WILL HUNTING (15) ABC Panton Street 2.10pm, 5.15pm,

THE HANGING GARDEN (15)
ABC Piccatilly 1.35pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm

HAPPY TOGETHER(15) Rio Cisenta 6.15pm ABC Swiss Centre 3.10pm, 7.10pm HURRICANE STREETS (15)

Virgin Haymarket 1pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, JACKIE BROWN (15)

Plaza 12.50pm, 4.15pm, 7.40pm KUNDUN (12) ABC Shaftesbury Avenue 2pm, 5pm,

8.20pm

LA. CONFIDENTIAL (18) ABC Panton Street 2pm, 5pm, 8pm

LIVE FLESH (18) Curzon West End 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm (+ Short: #'s Good To Talk) Virgin Cheisea 2pm, 5pm, 8pm Odeon Camden Town 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9.10pm Ritzy Cimema 7pm (+ Short: Magic Moments) Gate Notting Hill 9.05pm Curzon Minema 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Screen on the Hill 6.45pm Richmond Filmhouse 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

LOLITA (18) Virgin Haymarket 8.15pm Warner Village West End 11.40am, 2.25pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Odeon Kensington 6.10pm, 9.15pm THE MAN IN THE IRON

MASK (12) Rio Cinema 2.30pm MARTHA - MEET FRANK. DANIEL & LAURENCE (15) Virgin Chelsea 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Odean Kensington 7.20pm, 9.35pm Odean West End

MY SON THE FANATIC (15) ABC Swiss Centre 1.20pm, 5.20pm, 9.10pm

NOWHERE (18) ICA Cinema 5pm, 9pm Metro 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

PAIN IS... (NC) ICA 6.30pm

4.05pm, 8.50pm

THE REAL BLONDS (15) Metro 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm ABC Swiss Centre 1.10pm, 3.25pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm

RED CORNER (15). 8.30pm UCI Whiteleys 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9.25pm Plaza 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.50pm Virgin Fulliam Road 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.55pm, 8.45pm Odeon Marbie Arch 12.25pm, 3.15pm, 6.10pm, 9.15pm

REPLACEMENT Kallers (18) Virgin Trocadero 12nocn, 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Virgia Chelsea 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm UCI Whiteleys 2.30pm, 4.55pm,

SCREAM 2 (18) Warner Village West End 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm Virgin Tro-

cadero 12noon, 2.50pm, 6.10pm, 9pm SHALL WE DANCE? (PG) ABC Swiss Centre 1.10pm, 3.35pm,

SLIDING DOORS (15) Virgin Trocadero 2.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.40pm, Ritzy Cinema 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 9.20pm UCI Whiteleys 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.30pm ABC Baker Street 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm ABC Tottenham Court Road 1.25pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.25pm Virgin Fulham Road, 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.15pm Empire Leicester Square 12.20pm, 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8pm

THE TASTE OF CHERRY Renoir 2,20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm,

TITANIC (12) Warner Village West End 12noon, 4pm, 8pm Plaza 2pm, 7pm U.S. MARSHALS (15) Warner Village West End 12.30pm,

LES VOLEURS (18) Ritzy Cinema 2pm

WASHINGTON SQUARE (PG) Barbican Screen 6.15pm, 8.40pm Renoir 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Screen on Baker Street 3.15pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm Razy Cinema 4.10pm, 6.35pm. 9pm Virgin Haymarket 12.45pm, 3pm, 6.15pm Screen on the ill 3.45pm, 8.45pm Gate Notting Hill 1.50pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm Curzon Mayiair 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 5.55pm, 8.35pm Claphan Picture House 1.45pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm Virgin Fulkain Ruad 12.40pm, 3.20pm Cheisea Cinema 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 8.40pm, 8.40pm 6.10pm, 8.40pm

Odeon Camdea Town 1,15pm, 3,45pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Odeon West End 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm ABC Baker Street 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Odeus Kensington 7.10pm, 9.40pm Clapham Picture House 1.15pm, 3.15pm, 5.15pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm ABC Tottenham Court Road 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm Ritzy Cinema 2.25pm 4.35pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm Barbican Screen 6.30pm, 8.40pm Virgin Chelsea 2pm, 5.20pm, 8pm UCI Whiteleys 1.55pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 9pm Odeon Marble Arch 11.45am, 2.15pm, 4.45pm, 7.15pm,

THE WEDDING SINGER (12)

WESTERN (15) Rio Cinema 8 25pm ABC Swiss Centre 2.10pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm WILD THINGS (18) Odeon West End 1.20pm, 6.20pm Odeon Marble Arch 12.10pm, 3.05pm,

5.55pm, 8.50pm UCI Whiteleys 3.20pm, 9.10pm WISHMASTER (18) Warner Village West End 3.40pm, 9pm UCI Whiteleys 9.40pm Virgia Trocadere 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm,

> CINEMA LONDON LOCALS

ACTON

7nm 9.30om

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) Park Royal Dark City 2pm. 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm Deep Impact 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm MouseHunt 1.20pm, 3.30pm Red Corner 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.40pm The Replacement Killers 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.40pm, 9.55pm Scream 2 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm **Stiding Doors** 1.30pm, 2.10pm, 6pm The Wedding Singer 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm Wild Things 10.05pm Wishmaster 1.20pm, 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8pm

BARKING

ODEON (0181-507 8444) Barking Blues Brothers 2000 12.45pm, 3.20pm. 5.55pm, 8.30pm Dad Savage 2pm. 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Dark City 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm Deep Ezgan, 4.50m, 0.46m, 0.56m, 8.30pm MouseHart 12.55pm, 2.55pm, 4.55pm The Wedding Singer 12.15pm, 2.25pm, 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 8.55pm Wishmaster

BARNET ODEON (0181-315 4210) + High Barnet The Big Lebowski 2.35pm, 5.40pm, 8.15pm The Butcher Boy 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.25pm, 8.30pm Dark City 1.50pm, 4.05pm, 6.25pm Deep Impact 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.30pm Stiding Doors 1.55pm, 4.20pm, 6.45pm, 8.55pm9pm The Wedding Singer 1.40pm, 3.55pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

BECKENHAM ABC (0870 9020412) BR: Beckenham Junction Deep Impact 2.25pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Sliding Doors 2.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm The Wedding Singer 1.25pm. 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR: Bedeyheath Blues Brothers 2000 12noon, 2.30pm, 5pm Dark City 7.30pm, 10pm Deep Impact 11.15am. 1.50pm, 4.25pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Red Corner 1.30pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm The Replacement Killers 12noon, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8pm Scream 2, 11.40am, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.25pm Sliding Doors 11.40am, 2pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.25pm Titanic 12noon, 4.10pm, 8.15pm The Wedding Singer 11am, 1pm, 3.15pm, 5.20pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm Wishmaster 12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.10pm, 6.10pm, 8.10pm, 10.10pm

REXLEYHEATH

BROMLEY ODEON (0181-315 4211) BR: Bromley North/Bromley South Dark City 1.40pm, 6.25pm Deep Impact 12noon,2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Scream 2 3.50pm, 8.35pm Sliding Doors 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm The Wedding Singer 1.45pm, 4.10pm. CATFORD

ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Catlord. The **Wedding Singe**r 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm **Wishmaster** 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm CROYDON CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030)

BR: Croydon West/East Croydon Cuts -Croydon's Best Films Of '98 12noon, 1.45pm, 3.30pm, 7pm, 9.15pm Washington Square 3.45pm, 6.10pm, SAFARI (688 3422) BR: West Croydon.

Deep Impact 6pm, 8.35pm Dushman 8.35pm Wishmaster 6pm, 8.30pm-WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon Dark City

Blues Brothers 2000 5.45pm, 8pm

Deep Impact 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm Red Corner 1.50pm, 4.25pm, 7pm, 9.50pm The Replacement Killers 9.40cm **Stiding Doors** 2.10cm, 4.40cm 2.05pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Scream 2 4.15pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Slid-ing Ocors 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Titanic 2pm The Wedding Sieger 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm Wish-master 2.50pm, 5.05pm, 7.10pm, 9.15pm **GOLDERS GREEN**

DAGENHAM WARNER VILLAGE (592 2020) & Dagentam Heathway Blues Brothers 2000 6.30pm Dark City 2.50pm, 5pm. 7.10pm Deep Impact 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Red Corper 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.15pm, 9.50pm The Re-placement Killers 2.05pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm, 10.30pm Scream 2 3.30pm, 9pm Sliding Doors 2.20pm, 4.45pm, 7.30pm, 10pm Titanke 2pm, 6pm The Wedding Singer 1.50pm, 4pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Wild Things 10pm Wishmaster 3.10pm, 5.10pm, 7.20pm,

9.20pm EALING VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-9070719) BR/ Ealing Broadway Deep Impact 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Sliding Doors 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm The Wedding Singer 1.30pm, 4pm, FDCWARE BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) +

Edgware Aunty No.1 Phone for details Blues Brothers 2000 Phone for details The Borrowers Phone for details Deep Impact 2.30pm, 5.15pm, 8.20pm Jah Pyar Kissie Hota Hai Phone for details selfunt Phone for details Pyaar Kiya

Salaakhen Phone for details EDMONTON LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) Tottenham Hale Ad 4.30pm Blues Brothers 2000 4.10pm Dad Savage 3.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.55pm, 11.20pm Dark City 8.35pm Deep Impact 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.40pm, 12.30am Duplicate 5.20pm The General 7.30pm Hurricane Streets 3.20pm, 8.25pm, 11.15pm Jackie Brown 6.40pm Martha - Meet Frank, Daniel & Laurence 6pm MouseHunt 2.50pm Red Corner 3.35pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm, 12midnight

The Replacement Killers 4.40pm. 7.20pm, 10.05pm, 12.10am Scream 2 9.55pm, 12.35am Sliding Doors 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm, 11.40pm Titanic 4.20pm, 8.15pm U.S. Marshals 7pm The Wedding Singer 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.45pm, 11.30pm Wild Things 9.50pm, 12.45am Wishmaster 9.25pm, 11.45pm

> **ELEPHANT & CASTLE** CORONET (0171-703 4968) ← Elephant & Casile Dad Savage 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Deep Impact 3.20pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm Titanic 3.10pm, 7.10pm FELTHAM CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-867 0555) BR: Feltham Aunty kl 5.10pm, 9.55pm Blues Brothers 2000 11.20am, 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.30pm The Castle 8pm Dad Savage 1.10pm,

5.30pm, 9.50pm Dark City 12.30pm, 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm Deep Impact 12noon, 2.45pm, 5.20pm, 7.50pm, 10.20pm Duplicate 2.30pm. 5.40pm Dushman 11am, 9pm Hurricane Streets 11am, 3.20pm, 7.40pm Jah Pyar Kissie Hota Hai 6.10pm. 9.30pm The Land Girls 2.10pm Mad City 9.55pm Martka - Meet Frank, Daniel & Laurence 11.50am, 2.30pm. 7.30pm Mimic 9.50pm The Object Of My Affection 7.30pm Red Corner 11.30am, 2pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm The Replacement Killers 12noon, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8pm, 10pm Sarbans Daani Guru Gobind Singb 12noon, 3.30pm Scream 2 11.40am, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.25pm Six Days, Seven Nights 4.40pm, 7.30pm Sliding Doors 12.10pm. 2.30pm. 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm **Soul Food** 8pm, 10.10pm A Thousand Acres 3.20pm Titable 12noon, 4pm, 8pm The Wedding Singer 11.25zm, 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm Wild

FINCHLEY

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 9344) - East Finchley The Big Lebourski 7.05pm Dark City 10.05am, 3.10pm, 5.25pm, 7.35pm Deep Impact 3.15pm, 6.05pm, 9pm Red Corner 3.50pm, 6,30pm, 9.30pm The Replacement Killers 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.20pm, 2.20pm, 4.35pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm, 9.50pm Scream 2 1.45pm, 4.15pm,

Things 10pm Wishmaster 8pm, 10pm

6.50pm, 9.20pm Titanic 1.40pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm Titanic 1.40pm, 5.40pm The Wedding Singer 1.50pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm Wishmaster 10pm

ABC (0181-455 1724) ← Golders Green The Wedding Singer 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm GREENWICH

CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich Deep Impact 4.10pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm The General 3.30pm, 6.15pm,

9.30pm Sliding Doors 6.30pm, 8.45pm Washington Square 4.20pm **HAMPSTEAD** ABC (0870-9020413) ← Belsize Park Deep Impact 1.40pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm The Little Mermaid 1.45pm Sliding

Doors 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, B.45pm The Wedding Singer 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN (0870-9070718) Rayenscourt Park/Hammersmith Deep Impact 3.20pm, 6pm, 9pm The Reptacement Killers 2pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Stiding Doors 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Star Kird 12.40pm The

edding Singer 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

HARROW SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303)

→ Harrow-on-the-Hill/Harrow & Wealdstone Dushman 8.45pm Sham Ghansham 8.45pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) Harrow on the Hill The Big Lehowski 9.20pm Blues Brothers 2000 12,40pm, 6pm Dark City 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm Deep impact

To Darna Kya Phone for details 12.55pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm Red Corner 1.05pm, 3.40pm, 6.25pm, 9pm The Replacement Killers 12.45pm, 2.55pm, 5.05pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm Scream 2 3.20pm, 8.40pm Sliding Doors 12.20pm, 2.35pm, 4.45pm, 7.25pm, 9.40pm Titanic 1.30pm, 5.30pm The Wedding Singer 12.30pm, 2.45pm, 4.55pm, 7.35pm, 9.50pm Wishmaster 12.10pm, 3.10pm, 5.15pm, 7.10pm, 9.10pm

HOLLOWAY ODEON (0181-315 4213) - Holloway Road/Archway Deep Impact 2.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm The Wedding Singer 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm

ILFORD

KINGSTON

ODEON (0181-315 4223) @ Gants Hill **Dad Savage** 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8,10pm **Dark City** 1,10pm, 3,30pm 6.05pm, 8.45pm Deep Impact 11.50am, 5.30pm Sliding Doors 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.20pm The Wedding Singer 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409)
BR: Kingston Deep Impact 1.10pm,
3.50pm Stidlag Doors 1.30pm, 3.50pm,
6.10pm, 8.30pm The Wedding Singer
1.20pm,
Wishmaster 6.40pm, 9.45pm, 8.20pm naster 6.40pm, 8.45pm MUSWELL HILL ODEON (315 4217) ← Highgate L.A.

Silding Doors 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm The Wedding Singer 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm PECKHAM PREMIER (0181-235 3005) BR: Peckham Rye **The Big Lebouski** 8.55pm **Dad** Savage 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Deep Impact 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Red Cor-

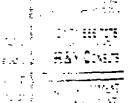
ner 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm The

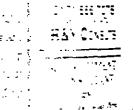
ABC (0870-9020407) BR: Purley The Big Lebowski 5.15pm, 8.15pm Deep

Singer 5.40pm, 8.40pm ABC (0870 9020401) - Pulney Bridge. BR: Putney. The Big Lebowski 8.15pm Deep Impact 2.15pm, 5.15pm Sliding Doors 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm,

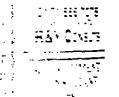
RICHMOND **ODEON STUDIO (0181-315 4218)** BR/O Richmond Deep Impact 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Martha - Med

8.45pm The Wedding Singer 2pm



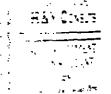


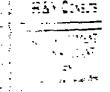




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LEGAL SEC





















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Confidential 2.45pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm

Replacement Killers 5.20pm, 7.20pm, 9.20pm Silding Doors 5.05pm, 7pm Wishmaster 5.15pm, 7.15pm, 9.15pm act 5.10pm, 8.10pm The Wedding

4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

Frank, Daniel & Laurence 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm



Marie The Control of C

Franklin Mark

ROMFORD ABC (0870-9020419) BR: Romford. Deep Impact 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Thank: 1.15pm, 5pm The Wedding Singer 1.35pm, 3.50pm, 6.05pm,

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (01708-729040) BR: Romford Blues Brothers 2000 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm The Butcher Boy 12.05pm, 2.10pm, 4.15pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm Dad Sav-. 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Dark City 12.45pm, 3.15pm. 6.20pm, 8.35pm Deep impact 12.15pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Red Corner 12.05pm, 2.40pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm Sliding Doers 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm The dding Singer 1pm, 3.30pm,

SIDCUP ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidoup Deep impact 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm The Wedding Singer 1.15pm, 3.45pm,

STAPLES CORNER VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR. Cricklewood Dark City 2.30pm, 5pm, 7.10pm,

9.30pm Deep Impact 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Red Corner 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.30pm The Replacement Killers 2pm, 4pm, 8.45pm, 9pm Sliding Doors 2.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.40pm The Wedding Singer 2pm, 8pm STREATHAM

ABC (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hill Deep Impact 2.10pm, 5.40pm. 8.40pm Red Corner 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Sliding Doors 2.30pm, 5.35pm, 8.35pm

ODEON (0181-315 4219) BR: ham Hill/ Brixton/Clapham Common The Big Lebowski 12.30pm, 5.50pm Dark City 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm The Replacement Killers 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm. 8.50pm Scream 2 3pm, 8.30pm Titanic 12.25pm, 4.05pm, 7.50pm The Wedding Singer 1.10pm, 3.40pm. 6pm, 8.30pm

NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (555 3366) BR/ Stratford East The General 1pm. 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Liar 1.30pm, 6.30pm Shall We Dance? 4pm, 9pm The Wedding Singer 2.50pm, 5pm,

SUTTON UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR: Sutton/ Morden Blues Brothers 2000 2.45pm eep Impact 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm The General 5 30cm Red Corner 3 15cm. 9pm Scream 2 9.30pm Stiding Doors 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 9.45pm Star Kid 4.45pm Washington Square 7pm The Wedding Slager 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Wishmaster 8.30pm

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519) + Turnpike Lane. Dad Savage 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Dark City 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm The Wedding Singer 4pm, 6,30pm, 8,50pm

UXBRIDGE ODEON (01895-813139) - Urbridge Deep Impact 1.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm The Wedding Singer 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm

WALTHAMSTOW ABC (0870-9020424) ← Waithamstow Central Beep Impact 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm The Wedding Singer 1.25pm, 3,40pm, 5.55pm, 8.30pm Wild Things 1.20pm, 5.40pm Wishmaster 3.30pm,

THE SCREEN AT WALTON

(01932-252825) BR: Walton on Thames ing Doors 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm dding Singer 2.25pm, 4.30pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm

WELL HALL CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR: Eltham Deep Impact 3.20pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm The Wedding Singer 4pm,

WILLESDEN BELLE-VUE (0181-830 0822)

→ Willesden Green The General 4pm, WIMBLEDON ODEON (G181-315 4222) BR/O Wimbledon/O South Wimbledon

Amistad 1.45pm, 4.45pm, 7.45pm The **Big Lebowski** 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.25pm **Deep Impact** 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Sliding Doors 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm The Wedding Singer 1.10pm, 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm WOODFORD

ABC (0181-989 3463) ◆ South Wood-lord The Big Lebowski 8.10pm Deep Impact 2.10pm, 5.40pm Sliding Doors 2.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm The Wedding Singer 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.20pm

CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: Woolwich Arsenal Deep Impact 3.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm Red Corner 3.20pm,

CINEMA

CINE LUMIERE AT THE INSTITUT FRANCAIS (kielensberry Place SW7 (0171-838 2144/2146) La Ceremonie (Judgement In Stone)

EVERYMAN Hollybush Vale NW3 (0171-435 1525) **The Butcher Boy (15)** 1.20pm, 5.10pm, 9pm + Angel (15) ICA The Mall SW1 (0171-930 3647)

Nowhere (18) 5pm, 9pm Pain Is... 6.30pm **Dyn Amo** 8.30pm

THE LUX Hoxton Square N1 (0171-684 0201) Peter Gidal: Avant Garde Retrospective: Programme 1 6.30pm

NFT South Bank SE1 (0171-633 0274) The Woodlanders (PG) 2.30pm Desire (Me Mia Cravyi): Contemporary Greece 6.15pm A Tribute To Da Minette De Valois: NFT Special Event 6.30pm HoBiday Camp Momentoes: Museum Special Event 7.30pm Shirtey Valentine (15) 8.30pm Do The

PEPSI IMAX The Trocadero, Piccadilly Circus W1 (0171-494 4153) Everest (U) 11.15am, 1.20pm, 3.25pm, 5.30pm, 7.35pm, 9.40pm Across The Sea Of Time - A New York Adventure (3-D) (U) 12.15pm, 2.20pm, 4.25pm, 6.30pm, 8.35pm, 10.40pm

PHOENIX High Road N2 Little Mermald (U); Wild Things (18): (0181-883 2233) Afterglow (15) Fluther (U); MoeseHunt (PG)

3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Hig Lebows ki (18) 1.15pm, 6.15pm Afterglow (15) 3.45pm, 8.45pm Smilla's Feeling For Snow (15) 1.15pm

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place WC2 (0171-437 8181) Mouse-Hunt (PG) 1.30pm Regeneration (15) 4pm in & Out (12) 6.30pm Midnight in The Garden Of Good And Evil (15) 8.45pm

RIO Kingsland High Street E8 (0171-254 6677) The Man in The Iron Mask (12) 2.30pm Happy Together (15) 5.15om Western (15) 8.25pm RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp

Road W6 (0181-741 2255) A Self-Mad Hern (Un Heros Tres Discret) (15) 6.45pm + Regeneration 8.50pm WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentford, Middx (0181-568 1176) Stiding Doors

7pm Les Voleurs (18) 9pm BRIGHTON DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-626261) Junk Mail (15) 2pm, 7pm Tristana (15) 2pm Live Flesh (18)

(15) 4.45pm Washington Square (PG)

BRISTOL WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Happy Together (15) 6.05pm, 8.15pm ton Square (PG) 6pm, 8.25pm

CAMBRIDGE ARTS (01223-504444) Gattaca (15) 12.45pm, 7.20pm Live Flesh (18) 3pm, 9.30pm Mother And Son (Ma

CARDIFF CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-399666) Live Flesh (18) 7.30pm Shall We Dance? (PG) 2.30pm,

CHICHESTER NEW PARK FILM CENTRE (01243-786650) Shall We Dance? (PG) 1,30pm Sliding Doors (15)

FILM THEATRE (01473-215544) Live Flesh (18) 6pm Out Of The Past (PG) 8.15pm Regeneration (15) 6.15pm. 8.30pm

NORWICH CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) Good Will Hunting (15) 2.30pm, 5.45pm Nowhere (18) 8.15pm

PLYMOUTH ARTS CENTRE (01752-206114) Jackie Brown (15)

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

BRIGHTON

ABC EAST STREET (01273-327010); The Wedding Singer (12); Stiding Doors (15); The Little Mermald (U): Deep Impact (12); Six Days, Seven Nights (12), Mad City (15)

ODEON (01273-207977); Lolita (18). Six Days, Seven Nights (12), Dark City (15); The Wedding Singer (12); The Littie Mermaid (U), The Butcher Boy (15): Wild Things (18): MouseHunt (PG); The Big Lebowski (18): Deep Impact (12); Mimic (15); City Of Angels (12), Soul Food (15); The Replacement Killers (18)

VIRGIN CINEMA (0541-555145); The Castle (15); The Wedding Singer (12). The Replacement Killers (18): Red Corner (15): Star Kid (PG); Mad City (15): Washington Square (PG): City Of Angels (12); Stiff Upper Lips (15); HouseHunt (PG); Sliding Doors (15) Six Days, Seven Nights (12); Dark City (15); Wishmaster (18); The Little Mermaid (U); Mimic (15); Deep Impact (12); The Object Of My Affection (15): Paws (PG): The Apostle (12); **Scream 2** (18)

WARNER VILLAGE (01223-460442); Four Weddings And A Funeral (15); Stiding Doors (15); The Crow (18); Wishmaster (18); Mad City (15); Six Days, Seven Nights (12); Martha -Meet Frank, Daniel & Laurence (15); U-Turn (18); The Big Lebowski (18); Blues Brothers 2000 (PG); City Of Angels (12); Wild Things (18); Scream 2 (18); Deep Impact (12); The Land (12); Girls Willlam Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet (12); The Little Mermaid (U); Mimic (15); Red Corner (15); Titanic (12); The Object Of My Affection (15); Anastasia (U); Casper (PG); MouseHunt (PG); Soul

Wedding Singer (12) Norwich CINEMA CITY (01603-622047); Nowhere (18); That's Cricket (U); Gion Festival Music (aka A Geisha) (NC); Men In Black (PG); in The Heat Of The Night (PG); Titanic (12); Good Will

Food (15); Dark City (15); The

ABC (0541-560567); Blues Brothers 2000 (PG); Mimic (15); Desperate Measures (18); Stiding Doors (15); Star fold (PG); Paradise Road (15); Deep Impact (12): The Castle (15): Spiceworld - The Movie (PG): Wishmaster (18): Mad City (15): Red Corner (15): MouseHunt (PG)

ODEON (01603-661832); Anastasi (U); The Ice Storm (15); Scream 2 (18); Parus (PG), The Object Of My Affection (15): Bean (PG); The Little Mermaid (U); The Wedding Singer (12): City Of Angels (12); Dark City (15); Spiceworld -The Movie (PG); Six Days, Seven Migists (12); Flubber (U)

UCI 10 PARK TAWE (01792-645005); Stiff Upper Lips (15); Deep Impact (12); Paus (PG); City Of Angel: (12); Regeneration (15); Wishmaster (18): The Wedding Singer (12); Blues Brothers 2000 (PG); Mimic (15); Titanic (12); The Object Of My Affection (15): Anastasia (U); The Land Girls (12); Scream 2 (18); Great Expectations (15); Red Corner (15); Sliding Doors (15): Star Kid (PG); The Replace Killers (18); A Simple Wish (U); Dark City (15); The Sig Lebowski (18); The

THEATRE WEST END

licket availability details are for today; times and prices for the week; runnir times include Intervals. 🌑 — Seats a all prices D — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matinees — [1]: Sun. [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thu, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat

O ART Richard Griffiths, Tony Haygarth, Malcolm Storry in Yasmina Reza's comedy about art and friendship Wyndham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111) ◆ Leic Sq. Yue-Sat 8pm, [4] 3pm, [7] & Sun 5pm, £9.50-£27.50. 90 mins.

● AS YOU LIKE IT Literary comedy from Shakespeare contrasting the court and the natural world. The Globe New Globe Walk, SE1 (0171-401 9919) ⊕ London Bridge. In rep. today 2pm, ends 8 Seo. £5-£20, concs available.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lavish family musical based on Disney's cartoon version of the lavourite fairy tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, Wi (0171-656 1888) Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £17.50-£32.50, 150 mins. BLOOD BROTHERS WILL

Road. WC2 (0171-369 1733) ← Leic So/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £10.50-£29.50. 165 mins. BUDDY Musical biog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 8800) 👄 Covent Garden/Charing X. Tue-Thu 8pm,

Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm &

8.30pm, mats Sun 4pm, £6.75-£30. 160

Russell's long-running Liverpool musi-cal melodrama. Phoenix Charing Cross

D CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) Covent Garden/Holbom. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£32.50, 165 mins.

O CHICAGO Ruthie Henshall stars in this hit Broadway musical. Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055) → Charing X. Mon-Sat opm. [4][7] 2.30pm, £16-£36 (inc booking fee).

CLOSER Superb study of contemporary sexual relationships from Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30om. [4][7] 3pm, £5-£27.50. 140 mins.

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) Reduced Strakespeare Company fast-forward through 37 plays. Criterion Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) → Picc Circ. Wed-Sat 8pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 5pm, Sun 4pm, £9.50-£20.

DELTON JOHN'S GLASSES David Farr's comedy about one man's obsession with Walford Football Club and their tailure to win the Cup Final in 1984. Ourean's Shaffesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5590/cc 344 4444) ← Picc Circ. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8pm. [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £10.50-£27.50.

P GAS STATION ANGEL Story of two lovers who are fated to meet, from the creator of House Of America. Not suitable for children. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [7] 4pm, ends 27 Jun, £5-£10, benches 10p, Mon & matinees - ali seats £5.

● GREASE Marissa Dunlop stars in the stage version of the hit film. Cambridge Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) Covent Garden, Mon-Sai 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-£30, 150

● AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christopher Cazenove and Kate O'Mara in Peter Hall's acclaimed production of Wilde's comedy. Albery St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730/cc 867 1111) ← Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45om, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £7.50-£29.50. 165 mins. AN INSPECTOR CALLS

Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed pro-duction of JB Priestley's thriller. Garrick Charling Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) ← Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sa 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 5pm, £10.50-● KAT AND THE KINGS Mu-

sical set in 1950s Cape Town. Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/← Charing X. Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri-Sat 5.30pm & 8.30pm, £6.25-£27.50.

• A LETTER OF RESIGNA-TION Hugh Whitemore's play about the Profumo affair. Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888) ↔ Charing X/Embankment, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £12.50-£25, 135 mins.

MAJOR BARBARA Jemma Redgrave and Peter Bowles star in George Bernard Shaw's classic comed Piccadilly Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) ← Picc Circ. In rep, tonight 7.45pm, continuing, £8.50-£27.50. **THE MERCHANT OF**

VENICE Shakespeare's cross cultur-I comedy. The Globe New Globe Walk, SE1 (0171-401 9919) ← London Bridge. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 19 Sep, £5-£20, concs available.

) LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterpiece. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-434 0909) ← Picc Circ. Mon-Sat .30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, booking to Dec 19, £7-£32.50. 195 mins.

) MISS SAIGON Musical which resets Madam Butterfly to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060) ← Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £5.75-£32.50. 165 mins. ■ THE MOUSETRAP Agatha

Christie's whodumit. St Martin's West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) ← Leic

Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 2.45pm, [7]

5pm, £9-£23, 135 mins. ● MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING A new production from-Cheek By Jowl. Playhouse Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839 440) Embankment. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, ends 25 Jul, £10-£22.

O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic 'musical. Her Majesty's Haymarket, SW1 (0171-494 5400) - Fice Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-£32-50 150 mins

 POPCORN Lawrence Boswell directs Ben Elton's satire on cinema vicience, Apolio Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) → Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 8pm, (4) 3pm, [7] 4pm, £6.50-£23.50.

■ THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND & BLACK COMEDY Double bill of drama from Torn Stoppard and Peter Schaffer, directed by Gregory Doran. Cornedy Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) - Picc Circ/Leic Sq. Mon-Sal 7 30pm, [4][7] 3pm £7.50-£27.50, 165 mins

RENT Musical inspired by La Boheme and set in modern day New York. Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399) & Holbom/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £12.50-£32.50, 160 mins.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE

• Olivier An Enemy Of The People ian McKellen stars in itsen's explosive critical drama. In rep, today 2pm 7.15pm, ends 20 Jun. 180 mins.) Lyttellen: Othelio David Harewood In Sam Mendes' production of Shakespeare's tragedy. In rep, tompth 8pm, ands 13 Jun. 210 mins. O Cottesioe: Our Lady Of Slige Out Of Joint's latest production stars Sinead Cusack. In rep. today 2.30pm, continuing, 150 mins, Olivier & Lytielton: £8-£27, Cottesloe: £12-£18. Day seats from 10am. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000) ← Embankment.

O SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hit 1970s musical leaturing. London Palladium Argyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) Oxford Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50. 135 mins.

SHOW BOAT Jerome Kern and ein's musical set on the Discar Hammers Mississippi. Prince Edward Old Compton Street, W1 (0171-447 5400) ← Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, £10-£35. 180 mins.

SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE THE SONGS OF LEIBER AND STOLLER The rock and roll hitmakers celebrated in a musical revue Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5972) ↔ Leic Sq/Ficc Circ. Mon-Thu 86m. Fri 5.45am & 8.30am. Sat 3pm & 8pm, £15-£32.50, Fri mats £10-

STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical. Apollo Victoria Wilton Road SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/+ Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£30, 150 mins.

SWEET CHARITY Bonnie Langiord stars in this classic musical, featuring the numbers Hey Big Spender and the Rhythm Of Life. Victoria Palace Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317) BR/⊕ Victoria Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £15-£30

I THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE Jane Asher stars in Alan Ayckbourn's comedy. Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) ← Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 30m, £10.50-£27.50, 140 mins.

• 3 BY PINTER: A KIND OF ALASKA Bill Nighy and Penelope Wilton star in the revival of this Pinter classic. Donmar Warehouse Earliam Street. WC2 (0171-369 1732) ← Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7pm, [4][7] 2pm, £10-£25. • 3 BY PINTER: THE COL-

LECTION & THE LOYER Pinter stars in a double bill of his own work. Donmar Warehouse Eartham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) ← Covent Gar-£10-£25. TROILUS AND

CRESSIDA Stakespeare's classic tale today 2.30pm & 8pm, ends 3 Sep, • THE UNEXPECTED MAN min Reza's follow-up to Art is a drama about a novelist and a life-long ad-

mirer. Michael Gambon and Eileen Atkins star. Duckess Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 344 4444) O Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4] 4pm, [7] 5pm, continuing, £10-£25. 100 • THE WOMAN IN BLACK Susan Hill's chilling ghost story. Fortune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

344 4444) ← Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£23.50. 110 mins.

ALMEIDA THEATRE The **Doctor's Dilemma** Tony Britton stars in George Bernard Shaw's cornedy. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Sat 3pm, ends 27 Jun. E6.50-£19.50, concs available. Almelda Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) → Angel/Highbury & Islington.

ARTS THEATRE Disco Pigs Contemporary love story from Enda Walsh. From 9 Jun, Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri-Sat 6pm & 9pm, ends 25 Jul. £8-£15 Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-836 3334/cc 741 9999) ← Leicester Square.

BAC Seeing Red II: On The Couch With Enoch, The (Bogus) People's Poem, The Big Idea, The Mandelson Files Four short new political plays. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, Sun 5.30pm, ends 14 Jun. £8, concs £5. Lavender Hill, SW11 (0171-223 2223) BR: Clapham Junction LYRIC STUDIO Take-Away Exploring goings-on behind the scenes at a Chinese Take Away. Mon-Sat 8pm,

mats Sat 4.30pm, ends 13 Jun. £5-£10 concs £5. King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) Hammersmith. NEW END THEATRE A Dangerous Woman New drama looking at the life of Wallis Simpson. Tue-Sun 7.30pm, mats Sat & Sun 3.30pm, ends 5 Jul, phone for prices. New End, Heath Street, NW3 (0171-794 0022) → Hamp-

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

NEW THEATRE Travels With My Aunt Giles Havergal adapts Graham Greene's story of a fish out of water. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, ends 13 Jun. £7-£15, concs available. Park Place (01222-878889)

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

First Cali

So farewell, then, Ginger Spice, a sinen lured away by whom we know not. The BBC, Chris Evans and George Michael have been among the cited reasons for five becoming four Adelicious irony of her departure, of course, is that Ginge was the only member actually named after a spice. Anyhow, the re-shaped Fab Four are carrying on regardless. Tickets are selling fast, so book now and avoid disappointment...if you like this sort of thing. Wembley Stadium, Empire Way, London HA9 (0181-902 0902) £23,50 19 & 20 Sept 6pm

Lest Cali

Only one week left to see Three By Pinter. The spellbinding Penelope Wilton plays a woman who wakes up after sleeping for 29 years in Pinter's quiet masterpiece A Kind of Alaska. Childhood happiness floods across her face and her every thought echoes around the auditorium. There's more superb acting in the double-bill of early plays that follows, with Pinter himself (right) as the possessive lover of excellent Colin McFariane in The Collection, while Douglas Hodge is outstanding opposite Lia Williams in the erutic double-act, The Lover. Donmar Warehouse, London WC2 (0171-369 1732)

EXHIBITIONS

turing the songs of the swinging sixties. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, ends 13 Jun. £5-HOLBURNE MUSEUM & £14,50. Regent Street (01242-572573) CRAFTS STUDY CENTRE The Collector's Eye: From Romney To Renote English art from the 18th and 19th centuries. Mon-Sat 11am-5pm, Sun 2.30pm-5.30pm, ends 5 Jul. £3.50, CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THE-ATRE Saturday, Sunday... And Mon-OAP £3, UB40/60+ £2, child £1.50, famday Domestic comedy set in Nacles about

ity £7 (to museum). Great Pulteney Street (01225-466669) ily tensions in the run up to a traditional Sunday lunch. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thu & Sat 2.30pm, ends 27 Jun. CAMBRIDGE £6.50-£25. Oaklands Park (01243-FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM 781312) EASTBOURNE

CONGRESS THEATRE From A Jack To A King Bob Carllon's rock and roll reworking of Macbeth features a range of familiar hits. Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri & Sat. 5pm & 8.30pm, ends 13 Jun. £10-£19.50. Compton Street (01323-412000)

CHELTENHAM Everyman Theatre

CHICKESTER

omer to The City New musical fea-

WATERMILL THEATRE Absurd Person Singular Alan Ayckbourn's comedy about a family gathered for Christmas, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thu & Sat, 2.30pm, ends 11 Jul. £6-£15. Bagnor (01635-46044)

NORTHAMPTON ROYAL THEATRE Skylight David Hare's drama about a coulple meeting. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thu 2.30pm, ends 20 Jun. £4-£14, concs available. Guildhall Road (01604-632 533)

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL Kind Hearts And Coronets Robert Powell and Colin Baker star in this story about a ninth-inthe-line aristocrat determined to claim his title by murderous means. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mat today 2.30pm. £3-£15. Theatre Street (01603-630000)

PLAYHOUSE THEATRE The Herbal Bed Peter Whelan's emotional thriller inspired by a real-life scandal involving Shakespeare's daughter. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mat 11 Jun, 2.30pm, 12 Jun, 8pm, ends 13 Jun. £11.50-£22. Beaumort Street (01865-798600)

PLYMOUTH THEATRE ROYAL The Pleantons Of The Opera Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical adaptation of the novel about a tracic love affair between an opera singer and a disfigured composer. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thu & Sat 2.30pm, ends 13 Jun. £20.50-£32.50, concs available. Royal Parade South (01752-267222)

READING THE HEXAGON Guards! Guards! Terry Pratchett's surreal detective story is brought to the stage. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 13 Jun. £10,50-£14.50. Queens Walk (0118-960 6060)

THE MILL AT SONNING Waiting Game Thriller set during a fictional conflict in Spain from Anthony Valentine. Tue-Sat 8.15pm, mats Sat 2.15pm, ends 27 Jun. £20.95-£31.95, including meal. Sonning Eye (0118-969 8000)

SALISBURY SALBERG STUDIO, SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE True West Story of an uncomfortable meeting between a hard working young American and his slovenly brother, who is returning home after three months drifting in the desert. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Thu & Sat 3,30pm, ends 20 Jun. £8, concs £6. Malthouse Lane (01722-320333)

SOUTHAMPTON NUFFIELD THEATRE Abigail's Party Mike Leigh's comedy about a mother who escapes her teenage daughter's party by fleeing to another party. Mon-Thu, 7.30pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, ends 13 Jun. £5.95-£11.95, concs available. University Road (01703-671771)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON THE OTHER PLACE Bad Weather Robert Holman's examination of the breakdown in family relationships. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 2 Sep. £12-£19. Southern Lane (01789-295623) ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE Measure For Measure Stephen Boxer stars in Shakespeare's ex-

amination of justice. In rep, tonigh 7.30pm, ends 3 Sep. £5-£37, Waterside (01789-295623) SWAN THEATRE Talk Of The City Stephen Pollakoff's drama explores media control in the early days of TV and radio. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 3 Sep.

£5-£31. Waterside (01789-295623) ST IVES SWANSEA GRAND THEATRE Cider With Rosie Stage adaptation of Laurie Lee's autobiographical novel. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mat 10 Jun, 1.30pm, ends 13 Jun, £4.50-£9.50, concs available. Singleton Street

CLASSICAL

BARBICAN HALL VIERNS Concentus Musicus/Haraoncour Including Mozart's 25th and 41st Symphonies. Tonight 7.30pm. £8-£22. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) 🗢 Moorgate/Barbican.

St/Aldoate/Aldoate East.

Kuniyoshi Prints by the Japanese master Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 28 Jun, free. Trumpington Street (01223-332900)

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WALES Carroll Through The Viewlinder Photographs by the creator of Alice. Tue-Sun 10am-5pm, ends 21 Jun. £4.25, child & concs £2.50 (to museum). Cathays Park (01222-397951)

COVENTRY HERBERT ART GALLERY GITTIAN Wearing Two video works -Contess all on video and Sixty Minute Silence, Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm & Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 14 Jun, phone for prices. Jontan Well (01203-832381)

HOMBOL BARBICAN ART GALLERY The Warted Look: Glamour, Style, Fashfour Over 500 works expolore art, film and testrion during Warhol's life. Mon, Thu-Sat 10am-6.45pm, Tue 10am-5.45pm, Wed 10am-7.45pm, Sun & Bank Hots 12moon-6.45pm, ends 16 Aug. £6(£4 after 5pm Mon-Fn), concs £4, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 4141) - Barbican/Moor-

Exhibition Featuring a carner signed by Cartier-Bresson. Old Brompton Road SW7 (0171-581 7611) ↔ South Kensington. Viewing today 2pm-5pm, 10 Jun, 9am-5pm, 11 Jun, 9am-12noon, auction 1 1 Jun, 2pm, tree. HAYWARD GALLERY Anish Kapoor Sixteen large sculptures by the contemporary British artist.

CHRISTIES Leica Camera

Wed), ends 14 Jun. £5, concs £3.50. Belvedere Road, SE1 (0171-960 4242) KENWOOD HOUSE Angels And Urchins: The Fancy Picture in 18th Century British Art Popular 18th century painting by artists including Gains-borough and Joseph Wright of Derby. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm, ends 9 Aug. £3.50, concs £2.50, under 12s free. Hampstead

vion-Sun 10am-6pm (until 8pm Tue &

NATIONAL GALLERY Masters Of Light: Dutch Painting From Ultrecht in The Golden Age Dutch paintings from the 17th century demonstarting unique use of light, includes work by Bloe and ter Brugghen. Mon-Sai. 10am-6pm (Wed to 8pm), Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 2 Aug. £5, concs £3. Trafalgar Square, WC2 (0171-839 3321) O Charino Cross, Leicester Square.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS The Art Of Holy Russia: Icons From Moscow 1400-1660 Fifty Icons illustrate 200 years of Russian art and history. Ends 14 Jun. £5.50, concs £4.50, NUS £3.60, child £1-£2.50. Royal Academy mer Exhibition 1998 Major annual selling exhibition featuring work by Royal Academicians and selected from an ppen submission. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm (to 8.30 Sun), ends 16 Aug. 27, UB40/OAP £5.50, NUS £5, child 12-18 £2.50, child 8-11 £1, incl handbook. Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1 (0171-

300 8000/cc 300 5676) Green Park. TATE GALLERY Some New Paintings: Lucian Freud Recent work by the leading artist, including his last portrait of Leigh Bowery and a rare self-portrait etching. Mon-Sun 10am-5,50pm, ends 26 Jul, free. Millbank, SW1 (0171-887 8000) **↔** Pimilico.

VICTORIA & ALBERT **MUSEUM The Power Of The Poster** Graphic art from the last century, ranging from Toulouse Lautrec to Wonderbra. Mon 12noon-5.45pm, Tue-Sun 10am-5.45pm, ends 26 Jul. £5, concs £3, under 18/ ES40s/disabled/mems/ 4.30pm-5.45pm, free (to museum). Cromwell Road, SW7 (0171-938 8441) South Kensington.

ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM Architect Of The Gothic Revival: L.N. Collingham 1787-1847 Looking at the lifetime achievements of this 19th century architect. Tue-Sat 10em-4pm, Sun 2pm-4pm, ends 21 Jun, free. Beaumont Street (01865-278000)

ST IVES TATE GALLERY The Fragilie Celt: John Wells Paintings by a lesser-loown member of the St ives artists' colony. Mon-Sat 11am-7om. Sun 11pm-5pm, ends 1 Nov. £3.50, concs £2. Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226)

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CHRIST CHURCH Endymion Essemble Cramber works by Wagner and others. Tonight 7.30pm, free but tickets must be booked. Commercial Street, E1 (0171-377 1362) Liverpool

ST JOHN'S, SMITH SQUARE Devid King Organ recital of Bach. Tonight 7.30PM. £5 & £8. Smith Square, SW1 (0171-222 1061) Westminster.

SUTTON HOUSE Victoria Voices A rich variety of Renaissance settings: Tonight 8pm, £7.50, concs £5. Hornerton High Street, £9 (0181-986 2264) BR: Hackney Central/Hackney

MIGMORE HALL Aaron Rosand The violinist plays Beethoven and Brahms Sonatas. Tonight 7,30pm. £7.50-£15. Wigmore Street, W1 (0171-935 2141) O Bond Street/Oxford Circus.

OPERA

GUILDHALL SCHOOL OF MU-SIC AND DRAMA The Aspern Papers Dominick Argento's opera after Henry James in a Guildhall School of Music and Drama staging. Tonight 7pm. £14, concs £10. Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891) Barbican/Moorgate.

LONDON COLISEUM Manor New production of Massenet's opera from ENO. directed by David McVicar, Tonight 7pm. £5-£49.50. St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300) + Leicester Square/Charing Cross.

LITERATURE

BRIGHTON ATOMIC LIP PRESENT LITPOP 1998 National Poetry Tour featuring Patience Agbabi, The Speech Painter, Joelle Taylor and Steve Tasane. Zap Club Kings Road Arches (01273-202407) Tonight

LONDON JUNG CHANG Talk by the author of Wild Swans, the world bestseller describing three generations of women in one Chinese tamily. British Library Euston Road NW1 (0171-412 7222) ◆ King's Cross. Tonight 6.15pm, £4, CORCS £2.50.

LITERARY EVENING IN AID OF LIMEGROVE APPEAL The Art of Writing Crime Fiction with Ruth Rendell and PD James. In aid of Notting Hill Housing Trust's plan for a new hostel/day centre. Royal Geographical Society Kensington Gore SW7 (0181-357 5353) - South Kensington. Tonight 7.30pm, £15, students £7.50, adv booking advised.

DANCE

LONDON THE BULL Vivid Dance Theatre: On Deaf Ears Culturally diverse classical and contemporary music and stimulating dance. Tonight 8pm. £6, concs £4. High Street, Barnet (0181-449 0048) O High Barnet

PEOPLE'S

THEATRE Arena Theatre mpany: Africa My Africa Percussionsed African music, dance and poetry. ren Street/Euston Square MORTHAMPTON

CAMDEN

THE DERNGATE Rambert Dance Company: Cruel Barden Evocation of the life and work of Federico Garcia Lorca through dance, text and song. Tonight 7.30pm. £11.50-£18.50, concs available. Guildhall Road (01604-624811)

CLUBS

RIGHTON STUDIO 54 AT OCEAN ROOMS Debauched club night playing 1970s disco, electro and classic house. Tonight 10pm-2am, £2. Mortey Street (01273-699069) Debauched

LIQUID AT 333 Liquid DJs and jocks mix house, electronica and drum n'hass, foright 9pm-3am, Old Street, EC1 (0171-739 5949) ◆ Old Street, £5, before 11pm/concs £4.

MAGAZINE AT ST. MORITZ MIX of punk, ska, reggae, trash and rock n'roll Tonight 10.30pm-3.30am, Wardour Street, W1 (0171-437 0525)

COMEDY

BRIGHTON DAVE GORMAN AT KOMEDIA The BAFTA award winning Mrs Merton writer. Tonight 8pm, £8, concs £6. Manchester Street (01273-277772)

LONDON CAMDEN LOCK COMEDY RE-VUE AT THE LOCK TAVERN Sod The World Cup Night with Robin Banks, John Gordillo, Peter Buckley Hill, Bert Satsuma and Chris Hansford, Tonight 9.15pm, £3.50, mems £2. Chalk Farm Road, NW1 (0171-387 9304) Camden Town.

OXFORD MICHAEL BARRYMORE - LAID BACK ON TOUR AT APOLLO THEATRE Popular all round TV entertainer. Tonight 7.30pm, £14.50-£18.50. Street George (01865-244544)

MUSIC JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

LONDON COLIN OXLEY TRIO, PETER HAMMOND TRIO Modern guitar and piano double bill. 606 Club Lots Road SW10 (0171-352 5953) ↔ Fulham Broadway/Earls Court. Tonight 9.30pm & 12midnight, £4.95. PAUL PACE SINGERS' NIGHT With quest vocalist Alexia Masardo, The

Baker & Oven Paddington Street W1

Baker Street, Tonight 8.30pm, £3.

(0171-224

2556)

ROOTS SALUTES THE SAXOPHONE Journey throught jazz sax bistory with Benny Golson and Chico Freeman, Jazz Cafe Parkway NW1 Tonight 9pm, £15, adv £12.50. IAN SHAW/CLAIRE MARTIN The dynamic duo with a new jazz-pops revue. nething Real. Pizza Express Jazz

Club Dean Street W1 (0171-439 8722)

→ Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 9pm, ¿ £12.50, Fri £15. RONNIE KOLE Rabble rousing blues and lazz planist-entertainer. Pizza on the Park Knightsbridge SW1 (0171-23%) 5273) Hyde Park Corner. Tonight 9.15pm & 11.15pm, £18, adv £16.

MUSIC

LONDON RANCID Big selling punk-ska quartet from Albany, California, return to the UK with new material. Astoria Charing Cross Road WC2 (0171-434 0403) Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 8pm, phone for prices.

JONNY LANG Virtuoso teenage

blues prodigy whose debut album Lie To Me has sold over a million in the US. Dingwalls Camden Lock, Chalk Farm Road NW1 (0171-267 1577) ◆ Camden Town, Tonight 8pm, £8. NOVAK, ROTHCO, L'AUGMEN-TATION Avant-garde electronic wobbles from the headliners. Upstairs at the Garage Highbury Corner N5 (0171-607 1818) ← Highbury & Islington. Tonight 8.30pm, £5. ROAD, JOE QUILLIN BAND Unusual lo-fi grunge duo, plus the dread-locked pianlst with his brass section. Ivy House Stuart Road SE15 (0171-732 0222) Tonight 8.30pm, £1-£2

DEICIDE Black Metal rockers from Florida, who incurred the wrath of the Animal Rights revenge squads with their attempts at Satanic behaviour. LA2 Charing Cross Road WC2 (0171-434 0403) Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 7.30pm, phone for prices. THE HKIPPERS World music Bon-

zo Dog Band-style from Paul Bradley of East Enders. The Weavers Newington Green Road N1 (0171-226 5911) ◆ Highbury & Islington, Tonight 8pm, £5, concs £4. PORTSMOUTH DAVID

ESSEX Tousled 1970s singer with a le-gion of loyal fans. The Guidhall Guild-hall Square (01705-824355) Tonight 8pm, phone for prices. **EVENTS**

LONDON MYTHS & MONSTERS Exhibit explores the mythological and historical perspectives of strange creatures. Natural History Museum Cromwell Road SW7 (0171-938 9123) ⊕ South Kansington. Mon-Sal 10am-5.50pm, Sun 11am-5.50pm, ends 13 Sep. £6, concs £3.20, child £3, under-5s free, family ticket £16 family ticket £16.

XCHANGE 🧸 WORKSHOPS Workshops for adults in contemporary Atrican performance and literature led by African tutors. Yaz Asantewaa Arts Centre Chippenham Mews W9 (0171-286 1656) & Royal Oak, 10am-6pm, ends 12 Jun, times vary for each workshop, 13 Jun, 8pm, phone ← Oxford Circus, £3, £2.50 before 11pm. for details, £40 for week, daily £10.

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WEDNESDAY RADIO

(97.6-99BMHz FM) 6,30 Kevin Greening and Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Jo Whiley. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. See Pick of the Day. 4.00 Dave Pearce 6.30 Steve Lamaco the Evening Session, 8.30 Movie Lindate with Mark Kermode. 8.40 John Peel 10.30 Jayne Middlemiss. 1.00 Clive Warren. 4.00 - 6.30 Chris Moyles.

Radio 2 (88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Alex Lester. 7.30 Sarah Kennedy. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Debbie Thrower, 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 John Dung. 7.00 Nick Barrackegh. 8.00 Mike Harding. 9.00 The Andy Peebles Soul Show. 10.00 Johnnie Walker. 10.30 Fichard Minson. 12.05 Steve Madden. 3.00 - 6.00 Jeff Owen.

Radio 3 (90.2-92.4MHz FM) 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks 10.30 Artist of the Week 44.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Charles Ives 1.00 Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. American music from Bristol

Cumming explores the double life 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. of William Beckford - English 4.00 Choral Evensong. eccentric, follower of Voltaire. 5.00 in Tune author of the nihilistic novel. Vathek. 7.30 Performance on 3. A celebraand careful faker of letters and tion of the stage works of Cole memoirs. She talks to Timothy Mowl whose new biography of Porter, presented by Nickolas Grace Beckford unravels the life and with Rebecca Caine, Kim Criswell Frank Hamandez, George Dvorsky, legends of the romantic novelist. BBC Singers, BBC Concert Orches-And, as a new prize is launched for artists working in digital technology, tra, conductor John McGlinn. Music Laura Cumming goes surfing in includes, Let's Do It (Paris), Night and Day (Gay Divorce), Miss Otis search of art on the net. Will new Regrets (HI Diddle Diddle), Blow, technology attract a new audience? Gabriel, Blow (Anything Goes), See Pick of the Day. 11.30 Jazz Notes. Begin the Beguine (Jubilee), 12.00 Composer of the Week: Where is the Life I Led? (Kiss Me Puccini. (R) 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night. Kate), I Love Paris (Can Can).

Brooklyn". Five programmes, this week, examining the history, culture and inhabitants of the dynamic New York borough that was once a city in its own right, and has played a major part in inventing America. im Marlow examines how different communities have left their mark on the borough, from the Russians who have turned the Brighton Beach area into "Little Odessa" to

Sky Novies Screen 1

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9.35 Postscript. 3: "Planet

PICK OF THE DAY

Cup 98 gets underway this after- (2pm R1), making fools of themnoon with live coverage of the opening ceremony and Brazil vs football-hating aesthete can find Scotland (3.30pm R5); that's consolation in Night Waves followed by Nieky Campbell's (10.45pm R3), which tonight World Cup Phone-In (6.30pm R5, right) and Morocco vs and fiction - not that the two Norway (7.55pm R5). By way of a warm-up, you could try Ruscoe's World Cup Special

the Caribbean and African-

their musical ideas, but, for

10.45 Night Waves. Laura

Boris Berezovsky.

Radio 4

6.00 Today.

9.00 Midweek

12.57 Weather.

(92.4-94.6MHz FM)

9.45 Serial: Round treland with a

Fridge. Hitchhiking around Ireland.

11.00 NEWS; Messages to Myself.

10.00 NEWS: Woman's Hour.

11.30 The Radio Detectives.

12.00 NEWS; You and Yours.

10.00 The Piano. "Figures of

the romantic composer Robert

Schumann, the fantasy was a

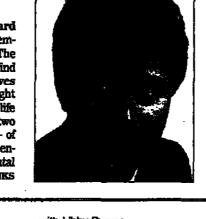
means of expressing much more. Schumann: Fantasy in C, Op 17.

Fantasy". In a fantasy, composers

have structual freedom to explore

American communities.

Ho hum, it can't be helped: World stick to Radcliffe and Lard selves in a café in St Denis. The includes a discussion of the life were ever easy to separate - of William Beckford, English eccentric and author of the oriental (1pm R5); but probably best fantasy Vathel. ROBERT HANKS



2.00 NEWS; The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: Cinderella D-Day. Land girls during WWIL (R) 3.00 Gardeners' Question Time. 3.30 Transplantations. 3.45 Diary of a Quitter. 4.00 NEWS; Case Notes. 4.30 Thinking Allowed. 5,00 PM. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 The Alan Davies Show. 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 7:15 Front Row. Mark Lawson investigates the perilous world of open-air theatre. 7.45 Postcards: The Real Dennis

1.00 The World at One.

1.30 Guess What?

Truelove. By Dave Sheasby (3/5). 8.00 NEWS; The Moral Maze. Michael Buerk and his team of regulars cross-examine "witnesses" about their views on the moral questions behind one of the week's headlines. 8.45 Maps for the Future. Four

programmes featuring speeches of inspiration and humour from graduation ceremonies, past and present. 1: Or Martin Luther King and Caryl Phillips. 9.00 NEWS; Costing the Earth. "Bioremediation, or Natural Solutions". Why do we use chemicals to right our environmental wrongs when nature could

provide our answers? Guy Linley Adams looks at bugs that clean up oil slicks, bacteria that absorb nitrates and trees that can act as indicators of pollution. 9.30 Midweek. Lively conversation

with Libby Purves. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Master Georgie. Beryl Bainbridge's latest novel is abridged by Pauline Wallis. Organised as an account of the taking of six photographs, the book explores the feelings and lives of three people who are each dependent on the scion of a well-to-do Victorian family. "1850 - a Veil Lifted". Read by Con O'Neill (3/10). 11.00 The Way it is. Satire, sketches and a hard look behind

Sanjeev Bhaskar, Simon Evans and Dave Lamb. 11.30 The Cheese Shop Presents... 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: Psycho. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

the week's media events from

Radio 4 LW (198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 6.00 Parliament. Radio 5 Live (693, 909kHz MW)

6.00 The Breakfast Programme. 9.00 Nicky CampbelL 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe's World Cup. See Pick of the Day. 3.30 World Cup 98. Brazil vs Scotland. See Pick of the Day.

6.30 Nicky Campbell's World Cup Phone-In. See Pick of the Day. 7.30 News Extra. David McNeil with a full news round-up, including at 7.50 the main sports bulletin of the day, plus the classified racing results.

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7.55 World Cup 98. lan Payne introduces commentary from lan Brown, Simon Brotherton and Graham Taylor as Morocco and Norway, the other two sides in Scotland's group, meet in Montpellier. Including the National Lottery Draw. See Pick of the Day. 10,00 Late Night Live. With Nick Robinson. Including a late news briefing at 11.00, and at 11.15 The Financial World Tonight and a topical late-night discussion. 1.00 Up All Night 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

Classic FM (100.0-101.9MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto, 3.00 Jamie Crick, 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

Virgin Radio (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM) 7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ Williams, 1.00 Nick Abbot, 4.00 Paul Covte / FM only Rev Cokes from 6.45. 7.30 Ray Cokes. 10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Caimin Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

World Service (198kHz LW) 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent. 1.45 Britain Today. 2.00 Newsdesk. 2.30 Omnibus, 3.00 Newsday, 3.30 Meridian (Books). 4.00 World News 4.05 World Business Report. 4.15 Sports Roundup. 4.30 The World Today (0430-0700)/Insight (SW 5875kHz only), 4.45 Off the Shelf: The Tailor of Panama. 5.30 Outlook (SW 7235kHz only). **5.55 - 6.30** Music Brief (SW7235kHz only). Talk Radio

6.00 Kirsty Young and Jeremy Nicholas, 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 12.00 Lorraine Kelly. 2.00 Tommy Bovd. 4.30 Live Commentary of Brazil vs Scotland. 7.00 Danny Baker and Danny Kelly. 9.00 James Whale. 1.00 lan Collins.

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

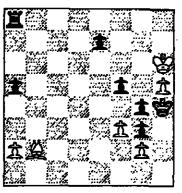
CHESS WILLIAM HARTSTON

SO ALEXEI Shirov has beaten Vladimir Kramnik to gain the right to challenge Garry Kasparov. So far, so good. But where does that leave the world championship?

Well, if Kasparov beats Shirov, then it leaves it exactly where we found it: with Kasparov, the world number one, as champion of his own organisation, with no formal rules to determine his challengers, and the International Chess Federation, Fide, running a lame "official" championship for the title currently held by Anatoly Karpov. In the less likely event of Shirov

beating Kasparov, however, it is doubtful that he would generally be accepted as world champion. He would still be rated behind Viswanathan Anand, and, having failed to win the Fide world championship in January, would also need to establish his supremacy over Anatoly Karpov. The mess that was created in

1993 when Short and Kasparov left Fide to run their own match is still a long way from being sorted out. The status of world champion can only be restored in a unifying match, and the sooner the better.



Here's a composition by a true world champion: White to play and draw by Vassily Smyslov. With Black threatening gxf3, and 1.fxg4 losing quickly to 1...Kxg4 followed by f4 and f3, White's task looks hopeless. Even 1.f4, hoping to get at the black king along the black diagonal, offers no chance after 1...Ra6+.

The solution is extraordinary: 1.Bf6+!! exf6 2.f4! Rh8+ (2...Rg8 3.Kh7 is no better) 3.Kg7 Rxh5 4.a4! Rg5+ 5.Kh8! (5.Kh7? loses after 5...Kh5) 5...Rg6 6.Kh7 Kh5 7.Kh8 Rh6+ 8.Kg7 Rg6+ 9.Kh8 and Black can make no progress since Kh6 is stalemate.

BRIDGE

"YOU ARE certainly one of the best card-holders that I've ever met," West grunted to South after this deal. "But it's no good holding strong hands if things go badly for you," replied South. Perhaps he should have added that it is no good either if you play them badly. After two passes East opened

One Diamond and, holding his usual rock-crusher, South overcalled with Four Hearts to end the auction. West led OJ against the heart game and, to declarer, the sight of dummy was very reassuring: ♠A and ♥9 - what more could he want? East overtook the lead at trick one and continued the suit. Without a care in the world

declarer ruffed the third round of

diamonds high and started on trumps by leading low to dummy's nine. East took his ace and led a fourth round of diamonds to promote West's ♥8 for the setting trick. "That really was unlucky!" was South's initial reaction. "Still, I had 100 for honours. No score!" As well as his honours, South should have scored his vulnerable game. Barring an extraordinary distribution, the only real danger

Love all; dealer South North **◆**AJ63 Ø92 ◊8654 **+**752 East **♦**Q 10 5 **49874** ♥8543 ۷A **AKO10** 012 **4**J83 10964 **♦**K2 ♥KQJ1076 **♦93 ♣**AKQ

lay in finding the trumps divided as they were. It may look unnatural, but the way to cater for this 4-1 break is to cross to dummy's A before broaching trumps by leading ♥2 from dummy. East has to play his ace on thin air and now, with the carefully preserved ♥9 intact on the table, declarer can again ruff a further diamond lead high without any possibility of a trump promotion.

SATELLITE AND CABLE

6.00 Through the Ofive Trees (1994) (995) 257(230), 1,00 Fiblishmen (1994) (751), 3,60 The Care and Handing of Roses (1995) (257(230)), 1,00 Fiblishmen (1994) (751), 3,60 The Care and Handing (1994) (751), 3,60 The Care and Handing (1994) (751), 3,60 The Care and Handing (1994) of Roses (1996) (70316), 5.00 Coccon

(1985) (29788), **2.00** The Big Green (1995) (12039), **9.00** The Killing Secret (1996) (7121132), **10.45** The Island of Dr Moreau 96) (21741720), 12.30 The Culck and the Dead (1995) (829614). 2.20 Galaxies Are Colliding (1992) (161527): 4.00 - 6.00 Night Force (1987) (99140). Sky Movies Screen 2

\$00 The Girl in Room 17* (1963) (42565). \$00 The Man from Colorado (1948) (4381). \$0.00 The Sky Palace (1994) (41478). 12.00 Dogmatic (1996) (60132). 2.00 The Girl in Room 17" (1953) (86519) 4.00 The Sky Palece (1994) (14146475). 5.50 Dogmetic (1996) (75673584). 7.30 El News (1519), 8.00 The Net (1995) (96300). 10.00 Phoenix (1997) (402652), 11.55 Stealing Beauty (1996) (534590). 1.55 Mute Miness (1995) (258966). 3.35 - 6.00 Childhood Sweethearts? (1997) (47297169).

4.00 Bettie Hymn (1956) (7305213), 6.00 Bear Island (1980) (1842861), 8.00 I Love You to Death (1990). See Pick of the Day (1758478). **10.00** Say Anything (1989) (2716671). **11.40** Badge of the Assassi (1985) (9644584). **115** Fright Night (1985) (6777430), 3.05 The Joison Story (1946) (94866782), **5.30** Close

8.00 The A-Team (3675294). 9.00 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (87257 Pt). 9.30 Cops (7984132). 10.00 Italian Stripping Housewives (7566010), 10,30 World Cop Undercover (7655958). 11.00 Films. The Raifle (1994) (3756229). 1.00 Beverly Hills Bordello (4495188). 1.30 Italian ives (3630237), 2.00 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (7788508). 2.30 Cops (7790948): 3.00 Films Redemption: Vernoyros Leebos (1970) (7938614). 5.00 -6.00 The A-Team (7403492).

4.00 Rex Hunt's Fishing World (7731497). 4.30 Zoc Story (7720381). 5.00 First Flights (2437039). 5.30 Terra X (7817861). 6.00 Arknel Doctor (7814774). 6.30 Serengeti Burning (2506584), 7.30 Disaster (7721010), 8.00 Antriel X (2426923), 8.30 The Supernetural (2518958). 9.00 Utilmate Guide (3764132). 10.00 The Barefoot

PICK OF THE DAY

mention of the state of Ulman is director Lawrence Kasdan And, the man commission of the state o thought of in the US than in her - World Cup fever, then The native Britain - a definite case of Professionals (9pm Granada a prophet without honour in her Plus) could be the answer This comedy, I Love You to Death (8pm Sky Movies Gold, right). she stars as a wife who schemes with her mother (Joan Plowright) to do away with her philandering husband (Kevin Kline). Despite the odd longueur, this is a typically engaging offering from

own land. In the officeat black archetypal late-1970s series has now attained such cult status that a TV company is in the process of remaking it. Can they surpass the original, though, with the follically challenged Lewis Collins and Martin Shaw as tough CI5 agents Bodie and Doyle? JAMES RAMPTON



Bushman (3774519), **11.00** Outlaws (2122661), **12.00** First Fights (9467053), **12.30** Disaster (6465188), **1.00** Robots' Revenge (3079695), 2.00 Close.

7.00 Tattooed Teenage Alien Fighters from Beverly Hills (27297) 7.30 Games World (6994749) 7.45 The Simpsons (1565) 8.55 The Oprati Wintrey Show (1373671). 9.00 Hotel (64565), 10,00 Another World (15126). 11.00 Days of Our Lives (91590). 12.00 Married with Children (13107). 12.30 M*A*S*H (32720). 1.00 Geraldo (33405). 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (85687), 3.00 Jenny Jones (43316), 4.00 The Oprah Wirdrey Show (59923). **5.00** Star Trac The Next Generation (5364). **6.00** The Namny (8045). **6.30** Married with Children (6497). 7.00 The Simpsons (1213), 7.30 The Simpsons (6381). 8.00 Stargate SG-1 (74774). 9.00 The Outer Limits (81010), 10.00 Friends (14836). 10.30 Friends (23584). 11.00 Star Treic The Next Generation (16855). 12.00 JFK: Reckless Youth (98362). **1.00 - 7.00** Long Play (4487492).

Sky Sports 1 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (54039), 7.30 World Wresting Federation Live Wire (51590), 8.30 Sky Sports Centre (40316), 9.00 Racing News (68768), 9.30 Aerobics — Oz Style (76229), 10.00 International Rugby Union. Griqualand West vs Ireland (35958). 11.00 Cricket - Benson and Hedges Cup Semi-Finals, Yorkshire vs Essex (25229), 1.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (46010). 1.30 Boding (20364): 3.30 Watersports World (27652): 4.30 Fastrax (1584): 5.00 World Wrestling Federation Shot Gun Challenge (8836). 6.00 Sky Sports Centre (3749), 6.30 Full Throttle (6229), 7.00 Trans World Sport (25478) 8.00 Snooker (38942) 10.00 World Cup Phone-In (198381), **10.45** Sky Sports Centre (731900), **11.00** Molorcycling (36667). 12.00 Sky Sports Centre (5039430), 12.15 World of Super League with Eddie and Stevo (845898), 225 World Cup Phone in (2869782), 3.00 Sky Sports Centre (67390817), 3.45 Motorcycling (970053) 4.15-4.30 Sky Sports Centre (34973850).

Sky Sports 2 7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (8127565). 7.30 Sports Centre (8139300), 8.00 Racing ws (8123213), 8-30 Fish TV (8122584) 9.00 Fish TV: The Littmate Fishing Show (8113836). 9.30 LPGA Golf. Miche Classic (5064039). 11.30 NHL ice Hockey (5919671). 1.30 Golf Extra (5110774). 4.30 Snocker (5008519). 8.30 The Winning Post (7690215), 8.30 Golf Extra (6727497). 11.30 Europeen Tour Golf Magezine (8153294), 12.00 P.A. Throttle (8678966) 12.30 Sky Sports Centre (9025850). 12.45 Trans World Sport (8010256). 1.45

12.00 World Wrestling Federation Shot Gun Chatlenge (82566107). 1.00 Fish TV -

Tony Dean Outdoors (50865836), **1.30** Fish TV (62579671), **2.00** Superbouts, Don Curry (64392942). 3.00 Major League bell (22043749), 5.00 Golf - Ma card Tournament (66533855). 6.00 NHL ice Hockey (48612478). 8.00 World of Super League with Eddie and Stevo (48617923), 10.00 Pois of Gold (30544381). 10.30 Dickie Davies's Soorting Heroes, Sir

7.30 Equestrianism (53958), **8.30** Formula 3000 (62584), **9.00** Rally (53836), **9.30** Football (56855), **11.30** Motocross (87720). 12.00 Tennis (13294). 2.00 Tennis (232923). 3.40 Football: World Cup 98 (8508565), 4.45 Football: World Cup 98 Brazil vs Scotland (78502126), 6.30 Football: World Cup 98 (20942), 7.30 Football: World Cup 98 Morecco vs Norwey (971403). 10.00 Football: World Cup 98 Brazil ve Scotland (97107), 12.00 Football: World Cup 98 (41072). 12.30 Close.

UK Gold 7.00 Never the Twain (2803855). 7.35 Neighbours (8926774), 8.00 Crossroads (2875359), 8.25 EastEnders (307497). 9.00 The Ell (7567749), 9.30 Howards' Way (7802584), 10.00 Duty Free (1449364), 10.30 The Sullivans (7652861) 11.00 Casualty (2047126), 12.00 Crossroads (95263671). 12.25 Neighbours (95346958), 12.55 EastEnders (9167671). 1.30 Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em (8577107). 2.10 Open All Hours (2703749). 2.45 Dangerfield (8852836). 3.45 The Bill (6207836). 4.15 Juliet Bravo (80792749). 5.20 EastEnders (2317381). 5.55 Big Bre (1337923), 6.30 The Bil (7734584). 7.00 The Cornedy Alternative: Lest of the Summer Wine (4114671), 7.40 The Cornedy Alternative: Waiting for God (\$269774). 8.20 The Cornedy Alternative: Butterfiles (2286039, 9.00 One Foot in the Grave (8946855), 9.40 Stent Witness (1296300). 11.30 Paul Menton - The Series (5048326). **12.00** Spitting Image (9469411). **12.30** Chelmsford 123 (4885985). **12.55** The Equalizer (7297275). **1.40** The Equalizer (3751904), 2.35 - 7.00 Shopping (81596411)

6.00 Thy Living (9841213). 9.00 Polonda 894, 9L50 Ready, Steedy, Cook (3043126), 10.30 The Young and the Restless (3838132), **11.20** Brookside (31162836) 11.50 Jimmy's (58971942), 12.20 Living 84039), **12.50** Rescue 911 657290101, 1.25 Hart to Hart (8034478) 2.20 Living It Upl (8169381). 3.20 Rolonde (4027749), 4.40 Jerry XXXX (31455687). 7.30 Rescue 911 (1170478). 8.00 Adrenalin Junkies (1841132). 9.00 Film: A Woman Scomed (1991) (15722836), 11.05-12.00 Jerry Springer After Hours (2707132).

9.00 Films North by Northwest (1959) (90962961), 11.30 Films MGM Missiones: A Night at the Opera" (1935) (16600710). 1.15 Films: The Barretts of Wimpole Street (1957) (80504492). 3.00 Films Boys' Night Out (1962) (46450633). 5.00 Close.

6.00 The Box (2638132). 7.00 El Uncut (7054590), 7.30 Coronelion Street (7977497), 8.00 Dempsey and Makepeace (2993107), 9.00 Mission: Impossible (4970120), 10.00 Return of the Saint (7986381), 11.00 Hawaii Five-O (7059045). 12.00 Coronation Street (2302128), 12.30 Families (5396942), 1.00 Second Thoughts (7053861), 1.30 On the Busse (5395215). 2.00 Mission: Impossible (760132). 3.00 Dempsey and Makepeace (6206229). 4.00 Hawaii Five-O (6112836). 5.00 Return of the Saint (7793855). 6.00 Families (9085132). 6.30 Classic Coronation Street (9903584). 7.00 Doctor at Large (7794584). 7.30 Doctor on the Go (9909788), 8.00
Dempely and Makepeace (1374010), 9.00
The Professionals. See Pick of the Day (1467774), 10.00 Return of the Salrit (1460861). **11.00** As Granada Men & Motors until 200em (7680687).

PUZZLE

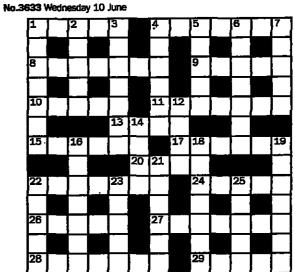
THE FOOD ran out at a party at our number of people at the party, I house the other day and everyone suddenly developed a passion for a them back exactly one piece each. piece of fried chicken, so they sent How many people were at the me out to get enough to give everybody exactly one piece.

I'm afraid the mission was impossible. The local takeaway daily puzzles, old and new, that could offer me only boxes of six, nine or 20 chicken pieces and there was no way I could make up exactly the required number of pieces in such combinations.

would have been able to bring party? (Answer tomorrow).

This is the first in a new series of will appear in this space. If you have any favourite puzzles you would like to inflict on a wider audience, we shall be happy to consider them at: Puzzles, The The odd thing was, though, that Independent, 1 Canada Square, if there had been any greater Conory Whorf, London E14 5DL.

CONCISE CROSSWORD



ACROSS Clear one's throat (5)

Minor problems (7) Pain-killing drug (7) Leap over (5) 10 Breed of dog (5) Waltz composer (7) Observe (4) Endured (6) 20 Hebridean isle (4) 22 Vicar's income (7) Picture puzzle (5)

17 Indeed (6) Decree (5) 27 Bone (7) 28 Crown jewels (7) 29 Pinch (5)

Part of church (7) Higher (5) Female lead (7) Trustworthy (6) Conceal (5)

Rare (7) Locations (5) 12 Bird (4) 14 Norse god (4) Going by sea (7) Sincere (7) Muslim veil (7) 21 Black Sea port (6) 22 Scornful remark (5) 23 Praise (5) 25 Drinking bout (5)

Due to a production error, the wrong class and solution were printed yesterday for which we apologise. The correct claes were printed en page 6 of later editions and we hope that some readers managed to solve the puzzle: Here are the solutions to Monday and Tuesday: Monday's Solution: Across: 1 Paris, 4 Hols (Parasols), 8 Disturb, 9 Rioja, 10 Slim, 11 Jettison, 12 Nightwatchman, 15 Affinity, 17 Drum, 20 Bilge, 21 Impound, 22 Chat, 23 Giddy, Down: 1 Passing, 2 Rout, 3 Sabre-ratting, 4 Heretic, 5 Looks, 6 Odds, 7 Cannon, 12 Nearby, 13 Tangent, 14 Mercury, 16 Fish, 18 Mode, 19 Sped.

Thresday's solution: Across: 1 Dye, 3 Hurry (Diary), 7 Pressmen, 8 Gear, 9 III-treatment, 10 Akimbo, 12 Menace, 14 Unaccustomed, 18 Scab, 19 Oratorio, 20 Event, 21 Ewe. Down: 1 Derrick, 2 Easel, 3 Henna, 4 Regimen, 5 Yearn, 6 Embryo, 11 Macabre, 12 Mutual, 13 Codeine, 15 Niche, 16 U-boat, 17 Moose.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

N ireland as 88C1 except: 7.00 - 7.30

Scotland as BBC1 London: 11.05 Sportscene World Cup 38. 1140 Brazil vs Italy, World Cup Final 1970. 12.35 Update from the Streets of Paris. 12.40 McCoist and MacAulay World Cup Special 110 Update from the Streets of Peris. 1.25 Scotland vs Holland 1978. 2.30 - 6.30 Brazil ve Scotland. 7.00 - 7.30 Reporting Scotland; Weather. 11.50 - 12.15

Wales as BBC1 London: 7.00 - 7.30 Wales Today, 10.20 Going Continental, 10.25 Going Continental, 10.35 The Human Body, 11.45 World Cup 98 -Match of the Day: 12.50 Film: Lethal Lofte. 2.20 - 8.00 Joins 98C News 24.

Anglia
As Cartton except: 12.20 Anglia
News and Weather (3734577), 1.00 Hope
and Gloria (5732), 1.30 Home and Away
(19855), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show
(498381), 3.20 Anglia News (312959),
(498381), 3.20 Anglia News (312959),
Home and Away (207039), 6.25 Anglia
News (815107), 10.30 Anglia News and

(790879). 3.00 Fantasy World Cup Live (9139966). 3.35 Cybernet 3879), **4.05** Vanessa (92731188). 4.35 ITV Nightscreen (57314188). 5.00 Coronation Street (52546).

Central
As Cariton except: 12.20 Central
News and Weather (5734577).
12.30 ITN News; Weather (10584).
1.00 A Country Practice (5732).
3.20 Central News (9312958): 6.00
Central News and Weather (361).
10.30 Central News, Weather and
Travel Update (630687). 4.35 Jobfinder (9155324). 5.20 Asian Eye (5038988). (6155324). 5-20 Asian Eye (5039888).

HTV Wales
As Cartton except: 10.50 This
As Cartton except: 10.50 This
Morring (18211125): 12.15 HTV News
(1256039): 1.00 Shortland Street (5732).
1.30 Home and Away (18855): 2.00 The
Jerry Springer Show (4898381): 3.20 HTV
News (5312358): 6.00 Wales Toright (381).
10.30 HTV News (530887): 72.15
Henegade (790879): 3.00 Fentasy World
Cup Live (5189968): 3.35 Cybernet
(86368679): 4.05 Variessas (92731188).
4.35 ITV Nightscreen (57314188): 3.00
Coronation Street (52546).

HTV West West Tonight (381).

As Cariton except: 10.10 This Morning (18211126), 12.15 Meridian News and Weather (1256039). 1.00 Shortland Street (5732). 1.20 Home and Away (19855), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (4898381), 3.20 Manidan News and Wegther (9312958). Mencian News and Weamsr (\$31235).
5.37 Three Mirutes — Freecreen
(\$33942). 6.00 Meridian Tonight (\$81).
10.30 Meridian News and Weather
(\$3687). 12.45 Fenegade (790879). 3.00
Fartasy World Cup Live (\$139988). 3.35
Cybernet (\$8388879). 4.05 Vanessa
(\$273188). 4.05 ITV Nightscreen
(\$273188). 6.00 Francorpee (\$2546). (57314188). 5.00 Fraescreen (52546).

As Cariton except: 10.40 This Morning (18211126). 12.25 Westcountry News (1256039). 12.27 Huminations 9/51756), 1.00 Emmerdale (57/32), 3.20 Westcountry News (\$21258), 6.00
Westcountry Live (\$31, 10.30
Westcountry News (\$30687), 11.10
Wednesday Night Live (778861), 12.10
Renegate (\$654527), 3.00 Pantasy World

Cup Live (9139966), 3.35 Cybernet (86368879), 4.05 Vanessa (927318 (96368679), 4.05 Vanessa (92731188), 4.35 (TV Nightscreen (57314188), 5.00 Coronation Street (52546).

As Cartton except: 10.10 This Morning (1821126), 12.15 Calendar News and Weather (1256039), 1.00 Home and Away (39772519), 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show: Outrageous American talk show in which Jerry Springer and his guests which Jerry Springer and his guests engage in twely – and sometimes heated discussion about relationship issues (734749), 2:10 Emmerdale: Vic has to (734789), 2.10 Emmerdale: Vic has to make a painful choice. The Woolpack quiz teatures a surprising star contestant. Betty calls in the police but finds herself under suspicion (595884), 3.20 Calendar News (312958), 5.40 News; Weather (246132), 5.55 Calendar (920478), 6.00 Tonight. (381), 10.30 Calendar News and Weather (83987), 3.55 Ubnassa (13905814), 4. an (630687), 3.55 Vanassa (35005614), 4.20 Jobfinder (8764237).

Tyne Tees

As Yorkshire except: 12.15 North
East News (1338687), 12.25 Jobink
(9351756), 3.20 North East News and
Weather (9312958), 5.55 North East
Weather (920478), 6.00 North East Tonight

Tyne Tees

Only to find theyre both chess
gir (3010, 8.30 Friends (945, 8.40 Fronkelde (466229), 10.35 E

11.30 Whose Line is it Anyw
12.00 Short and Curies (77)
NBA (1058275), 5.00 Close. Type Tees

(381). **10..30** North East News and Weather (630687).

As Channel 4 except: 12.00 fickl Lake (82213), 12.30 Sesame Street (18126), 1.00 Slot Melthrin: Caffi Sall Meli a Smot y Ci (5574), 1.30 The Three Stooges (21033294), 1.50 Film: The Gentle Sext: The wartime ATS experiences of seven yourng women from eropriances of seven young women from different social backgrounds. Mild, episodic propagands, co-directed and nameted by Lasile Howard. All frightfully British — and fascinating as a valuable social document. With Posamund John (80728213), 4-30 Countdown (958), 5.00 (80728213), 4-30 Countdown (958), 5.00 5Pump: Nos Nain (9295300). **5.15** 5Pump. Fiel (9000328). **6.00** Newyddion 6 (661213). **6.10** Heno (325045). **7.00** Pobol y Cwm (134039), **7.25** garej (339215), **8.00** Hawio (3039), **8.30** Newyddion (877), **9.00** Frasier: American sitom about a Seattle-based ractio psychiatrist.

Fresier and Niles throw a singles party,
only to find they're both chasing the same
glif (3010), 9.30 Friends (94590), 10.00

Brockelde (466229), 10.35 E R (270039),
11.30 Whose Line is it Arrywsy? (33010),
12.00 Short and Curies (772807), 2.00
NBA (196277), a Curies (772807), 2.00



THOMAS SUTCLIFFE

TELEVISION REVIEW

dramatise the experiences of a merchant banker who, in the manner of wicked capitalists in all disaster movies, sncers at the prophets of doom in the hope of a fast return. Ho is punished not merely by seeing his Far Eastern telecom investments go up in a pull of millennial smoke the gets a sleady engaged tone when he tries to dial Kuala Lumpur

repeated on a global scale," someone said hait-way through the Disaster special (BBC2) on the millennium big. And, as millennial terrors go, that's its big deficiency. Asteroids have undeniable imaginative impact, and viral frights co-opt overy twinge and ache, but here is a catastrophe which manifests liself largely through muisances – your video may fall to record a programmo; your lights may go suit; the traffic may got snarled up – all vexing events but not really the kind of thing to send a bead of lcy sweat coursing down the spine. And while s chain of trivial problems can sometimes cascade into a serious one, even that girlfriend fall into a coma — a mishap that requires the choreographed action of a falling fire alarm, a wobbly sprinkler system, an errant minkab, a delayed ambulance and wonky blood machines.

This was a relatively tidy way of galhering together the potential probloms of "embedded systems" — the sort of low-cost, unadjustable micro-computers on which so much of our technology dopends — but it also had the counter-productive offect of looking like just a run of bad hick. By the end of the programme I had decided to stay in on Millennium Night and look at the fireworks with a pair of binoculars — but that was as much to do with the realisation that the streets will be crammed with intoxicated celebrants, as with terror at millennial technoplague. Accidents will happen and on the morning of 1

January 2000 it's a fair bet that a lot more will happen at that a lot more will happen and sugual.

Perings some date-sensitive bit of silicon inside a missile bunker in the Urals will finally release Armageddon simply because it doesn't know how to count past 99, but you can hardly run an office on such speculations.

It's possibly too strong to describe in The Red (BBC2) as a disaster – though it's been a while since so much money has been spent to such little effect – but another piece of milennial jargon did seem relevant. In The Red was "date defective", a piece of notionally topical satire which was obsolete even as it hit your screen. This frankly wouldn't have mattered if it had been funny, but Malcolm Bradbury's script rarely managed to extract more than a weak smile. To be fair, one of the rare exceptions was last night, when "Oh Jesus", the calculatedly offensive religious programme with which Stephen Fry hoped to unseat the director general, was shown in rehearsal. The camera first panned past two rabbis trying to slaughter a piglet with a chainsaw and then came to rest on the floor manager: "OK," he shouts to the crew. "we won't burn the Koran until the dress, so we move on to shot 138. Can we have the nuns and Alsatians over here please." At this 100

point a prop person asks
Hercules Fortescue,
personnel upparatchik turned
producer; for an artistic
decision. Where exactly on the
mun-sized foam-rubber penis
does he want Ayutollah
Kliomeini's face to be pinned?
I laughed out loud at that, but

This doesn't make things easier for those who have the job of persuading industry to put their chips in order. A Mr Chicken-Little of Taskforce 2000 did appear to say that it was later than we think, and to murmur darkly about airtraffic control and financial markets. But now and again one of his associates would let the cat out of the bag. When discussing the implications for health, which include the efficiency of a computer-based ambulance call-out system, he concluded by saying. 'I think you could experience less than optimum treatment as a result of year 2000 problems". As a galvanising call to action this leaves a little to be desired. In fact you would probably genorate more popular urgency by saying "No pizza after 31 December 1009 unless we act now!"

3.20 GIUGH World Cup 98 Live. The opening ceremony at the Stacle de France, St Denis – followed by the opening game: Brazil v Scotland. See Malch of the Day, below (S) (T) (40507478).

8.30 Weather. (1) (565)

7.00 Regional News (1) (4381).

Z-

10.20 The Human Body. Professor Robert Winston reaches puberty, as it were, in his unfairly maligned popular biology show. Footage shot inside the body reveals how periods start and voices break, and spots make their first appearance (S) (T) (824213).

World Cup 98 - Match of the Day. Highlights of Morocco v Norway (5) (T) (783478).

DO Business Breakfast (93565), 7.00 News (7) (63749), 9.00 A Date with Fate (S) (1296774), 9.20 Kilroy (S) (T) (1005590), 10.00 The General (S) (24316), 10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (S) (T) (75923), 11.00 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (256519), 11.05 The Really Useful Show (S) (T) (1197229), 12.00 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (5601623), 12.05 Call My Bluff (R) (S) (9036720), 12.35 Wipsout (S) (5307039), 1.00 News; Weather (T) (68836), 1.30 Regional News and Weather (97550749), 1.40 The Weather Show (S) (78614565), 1.45 Neighbours (S) (T) (14298403), 2.10 Through the Keyhole (S) (40155949). BBC

2.40 Tennis: the Stella Artols Chempionships.
Further coverage of the men's grass court chempionship
at Queen's Club in London. Sue Barker and her lamillar
Wimbledon cohorts are in attendence (S) (6006923).

7.30 Temerrow's World. New hope in the battle against breast cancer, as doctors in Italy develop a way to "tag" turnours so that they can be safely removed at an early stage. And Jez Nelson plays with 21st-century baby toys (5) (749).

8.00 Chitdren's Hospital. Sick children, including a two-year-old in need of a kidney transplant (S) (1) (3229).

8.30 The National Lottery Draw. Libnel Ritchie and Deshee entertain the punters (S) (T) (941836).

8.46 Points of View (S) (T) (826377). 9.00 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (1300).

9.30 Out of Hours. More Casualty-esque thrills with the out-of-hours medical team. In this week's episode there's a boy whose parents won't allow him medical treatment because of their religious beliefs, and a jesious husband with heart palpitations (S) (T) (231855).

three TV movies that followed the case of the so-called "Long Island Lolite", Amy Fisher, who shot her much cider married lover's wife, permanently disabiling her. This version of events was made with Fisher's assistance, reflecting her view that she was manipulated into committing the crime (S) (572695). To 145am.

BBC2

Children's BBC: Teletubbles (S) (2220229). 7.25-The: Finistone Comedy Show (2136836). 7.50 Bright Sparks: (S) (T) (2867497). 8.15 Funky Phanton (7428861). 8.35.17 The Greedyseurus Geng (R) (7709671).

8.45 The Record (S) (4419836). 9.10 Landmarks (1110300). 5
9.30 Pathways of Bellef: Judaism (S) (8381045). 9.48 : ...
Words and Pictures (S) (8206300). 10.00 Teletubbles (22958). 10.30 Numbertime (5523869). 10.45 Mersalls on Music (S) (8698300). 11.40 Watch Out (S) (2445671). 11.55 Teaching Today (S) (6824756). 12.30 Working Lunch (96958). 1.00 Dilly the Dinosaur (F) (25776652). 1.05 Bananama (R) (25774923). 1.10 Allas Smith and Jones (1023300). 2.00 Termis: the Stella Artols Championships (4883403). 2.40 Westminster with Dianal Madili (6004565). 3.30 News; Weather (T) (6538403).

3.35 Children's BBC: Playdays (8531478). 3.55 Hubbub (82647%). 4.10 To Me ... to You (5) (T) (5197942). 4.35 The Demon Headmaster (5978671). 5.00 Newsround (5). (T) (1157465). 5.10 Blue Peter (S) (T) (6566403).

8.36 Neighbours (S) (T) (989720).

6.00 Watch Out Monthly. Plans to reintroduce otters into . Brillsh rivers, and some cygnets learning to swim. (855).

6.30 Tennis: the Stells Artols Championships, Further coverage of the pre-Wimbo' grass court tournament from the Queen's Club, London (S) (26132).

7.30 Levisthen. Nicky Campbell traces the ressons for Scottlsh antipathy towards the English (we can blame Edward 1, apparently, for calling the Scots "turds"). Plus, the pioneering football tans who trekked to Sweden to watch the World Cup in 1958 (S) (519).

The House Deteatives. The secret history of an elegant Georgian house in the historic industrial town of fronbridge, Shropshira (S) (1671).

8.30 Home Front. Decorating and DIY, includes a "definitive guide to lighting the home" (oc-er) and cheap alternatives to curtains (S) (T) (7478).

9.00 To Catch a Killer. 1/2. Besides being Businessman of the Year, a tireless charity worker and a children's entertainer, John Wayne Gacy also managed to murder 33 young men. US mini-series stalwart Brian Dennehy is quite well cast as America's worst ever serial killer, while Michael Riley plays the detective who finally put an end to Gacy's psychopathic ways. A decent cast also includes Margot Kidder and Meg Foster, and the drama concludes tomorrow at the same time (Followed by Video Nation Caribbean Shorts) (S) (T) (9671).

10.30 Newsnight. Paxman calling (T) (517687).

10.30 London Tonight (T) (630687).

10.00 Ne

vs; Weather. (1) (85300).

10.40 Fantasy World Cup Live. Baddiel and Skinner give another lads eye view from the sofa (789749).

(59871). 12.00 The Midnight Hour (70546). 12.30 BBC (59871). 12.00 The Midnight Hour (70546). 12.30 BBC Learning Zone: Open University: The Interactive Zone (3566966). 12.45 Relative Risk (8923188). 1.35 The Physics of Ball Games (8656256). 2.00 Languages: the German Collection (24985). 4.00 World Cup French: The Travel Hour France (42527). 5.00 Business and Training: RCN Nursing Update (25492). 5.30 RCN Nursing Update (4246895). 5.45 Open University: New Formulae for Food (4699966). To 6:10am.

Children's ITV: Potamus Park (R) (S) (9222381). 3.35
Titch (R) (S) (8184584). 3.45 Slim Pig (R) (8164720).
4.00 Chatterhappy Ponies (R) (S) (T) (8911855). 4.10
Garfield and Friends (2392861). 4.25 Walter Melon (T) (5189823). 4.50 How 2 (R) (T) (3271279).

Home and Away (S) (T) (3352045).

London Tonight. Regional news update for the capital and the South-east (7) (381).

6.30 Emn ends leens

7.00 Cor

World Cup \$8 Live: Morocco v Norway.

Highlights of this afternoon's opening ceremony and the opening match between Brazil and Scotland are followed by live coverage of the Group A match from Montpellier between Morocco and Norway (kick-off at 8pm). This is the sort of fixture that many will leave alone in a few days' time - but the novelty of the opening day of France 98 should provide a healthy viewing public for the ITV line-up of Bob Wilson. Terry Venables and the only man likely to give Barry Venison a run for his money in the colourful jackets stake: John Barnes. As for the game - Morocco will be familiar-ish from their recent defeat by England. The Norwegians have a hard core of Premiership players, including their strike force of Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and Tore Andre Flo (708519).

10.00 Ally McBesi. The much hyped "post Bridget Jones" sifcom about a female lewyer. This week Ally (played by the improbably named Callsta Flockhart) meets the firm's other founding partner when she defends him on charges of soliciting a prostitute (5) (T) (651855).

10.55 Jo Whiley. Finlay Quaye guests (9) (514590).

11.40 Board Stupid (R) (S) (T) (713228).

12.20 Midnight Caller (7941478).

11.15 Wednesday Night Live (S) (873045).

12.15 Under the Moon; World Cup Special (677053).
 2.00 Transworld Sport (61091).
 3.00 Gamesmaster (9137508).

ernet (88303942). **4.00** Vanessa (R) (8848855).) ITV Nightscreen (5605126). To 5.30am. 3.35 IIIM The Firefly (Robert Z Leonard 1937 US).

Plush screen version of the Broadway operetta set during the Napoleonic Wars. Jeanette MecDonald spies for the Spanish side, only to fall for the opposing French agent, Alian Jones (2489919). To 5.50am.

Carlton

Channel

9.30 Vanessa (S) (T) (1088300). **10.10** This Morning (T) (3524852). **9.30** Vanessa (S) (T) (1088300). **10.10** This Morning (T) (39058284). **12.20** Your Shout (3734577). **12.30** News; Weather (T) (10584). **1.00** London Today (T) (57132). **1.30** The Jerry Springer Show (S) (T) (5842132). **2.15** Home and Away (S) (T) (122497). **2.45** Waffle (S) (T) (121768). **3.16** ITN News Headlines (T) (9315045). **3.20** London Today (T) (9312958).

6.00 Seeame Street (R) (82403). 7.00 The Big Breskfast (S) (52687). 9.00 Channel 4 Schools (S) (T) (429346).
11.30 Powerhouse (7403). 12.00 Sesame Street (82213).
12.30 Light Lunch (26300). 1.30 Flamenco (76714519).
1.35 The Three Stooges (21032565).

1.55 IIIM The Divided Heart (Charles Crichton 1954 UK). Fascinating for its insights into postwar Europe, and quite effective as a drama in its own right, this suprisingly unparochial Ealing tearjerker tells of a Bavarian couple who learn that their adopted childs real mother, thought to have died in Auschwitz, has returned to claim her son (7) (80809132).

News; Weather (1) (897300).

5<u>.4</u>0

9.10

6.00

merdale. The rugby match against the Mait Shovel In chaos. And "The Farm's" resident troubled ager Kelly and her latest outburst (S) (T) (861).

6.50

Fresh Pop (R) (S) (T) (976942).

7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (S) (T) (705107)

6.00 Party of Five. Cute it improbable teen stroom about a family of orphans. While Charlie is in hospital, Balley and Julia are threatened with the loss of their younger siblings (S) (T) (329861).

nation Street (T) (6748):

High-oper by N betw

8.30 The Italian Kitchen. Ruth Rogers and Rose Gray cook turn their attention to fish and shellfish, suggesting chargrilled monkfish and scallops served with rosemary and anchovy sauce. Oh, if they insist (5) (7) (8774)

8.00 Brookside. Mersey grief, Katrina tells Jason that she is pregnant (S) (T) (3039).

The Windrush Years. Continuing the celebration of 50 years of the Caribbean influence in Britain. Today, the story of the Rev A! Lewinson. (T) (268720).

9.00 DIDIG ER. The last in the current series. What will the writers do with George Cloonsy? See Drama of the Day, below (S) (T) (9823).

11.15 The Jack Docherty Show (S) (3510710).

12.30 Live and Dangerous (S) (5248486), 4.40 Monsters (13871879), 5.05 Throb (R) (S) (12410879), 5.30 100 Per Cent (R) (S) (6295879), To 6.00am.

MATCH OF THE DAY

BRAZIL VS SCOTLAND (3.20pm BBCt) At last we can put aside the trials of Sheri, Hod and Gazza and concentrate on the footie. That's after the Jeux Sans Frontieres-style high jinks of the opening ceremony at the new Stude de France in St Denis, however tand the French are bound to excel themselves here. Scotland's encounter with Ronaldo (right) and company kicks off at 4.30pm and can be more profitably read about in the sports pages. The BBC presentation team includes land Gullit's replacement (David Ghola, who, along with Lineker and Des Lynam, must be someone's crumpet dream team.



DRAMA OF THE DAY

3.35 Cybo 4.40

3.05 Fantasy World Cup Live (29506714).

1.20 World Cup 98; Brazil v Scotland. This afternoon's metch in its entirety (670102).

ER (9pm C4) The present season com-obligatory cliffhunger involves George so much his character, Dr Ross, as the secons to know whether tonight will be the medical drama or whether he has contract and will be making guest app season. Anyhow, the story line, as rega-involves Dr Ross undertaking an unor comes to an end and the rige Clooney (right) – not the actor himself. No one II be his has appearance in use a year left in his ppearances in the next equins will already know, orthodox emergency



FILM OF THE DAY

alternatives to the votation of pretting accompletely avoid sport by ducking into Channel 5's afternoon movie. Anthony's Asquith's 1953 The Final Test is that rarity a film about cricket fiet's face it: Hollywood weren't making any) - and it dates from cricket's golden postwar period, with the likes of Len Hutton, Denis Compton (right), Jim Laker and Alec Bedser playing themselves. Terence Rattigan adapted his own TV play, inspired by Don Bradman's famous second-ball dismissal in his final Test match, with Jack Warner as the old pro whose son is more interested in poetry. THE FINAL TEST (3.30pm C5) Those scrabbling for alternatives to the World Cup opening ceremony can't



من ألاصا

(5) (T) (8624403), **7.30** Milkshakel (S) (3564720), **7.38** Wind in the Willows (2464958), **8.00** Havakazoo (S) (4687923), **8.30** Dappledown Farm (R) (4686294), **9.00** Natural Tales (R) (S) (T) (47737%), **9.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (R) (8542652), **10.25** Sunset Beach (S) (T) (5847228), **11.10** Leeza (R) (S) (5749805), **12.00** 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (4680010), **12.30** Family Affairs (S) (T) (4594923), **1.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (8623774), **1.30** Sons and Daughters (4593294), **2.00** Open House with Gloria Hunniford (S) (9884652), **3.00** 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (3289300). hannel

3.30 GIIUIG Time Final Test (Anthony Asquith 1953 UK).
The greatest cricketing movie of all time? See Film of the Day, below (R) (6834497).

5.10 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Oprah is joined by the Spice Girls – all five of them, as this was obviously recorded long before Gerl decided that Union Jack knickers were beneath her dignity (1561126).

4.55 Ricki Lake. Should people get married for the sake of their children? Discuss ~ or just cheer wildly if discussion is beyond you (S) (T) (7743749).

5.30 Pet Rescue (S) (T) (710).

3.30 A Spiesh of Colour (T) (869). 4.00 Fitteen to One (S) (T) (774). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (5971768).

6.00 100 Per Cent. Remorseless questioning and grating incidental music (5) (5727841).

6.30 Family Affairs. Liam tells Nick that he is spending the night in the caravan. See what you're missing? (S) (T) (1022233).

7.00 & News, including First on Five (S) (T) (8114251)

7.30 The Papa! Chart. Space, Desree and Lutricle McNeel are the guesta in this week's edition of the Top of the Pops alternative (S) (5622297).

8<u>.00</u> Of The Thorn Birds: the Missing Years. Gruesome. This two-part miniseries purports to fill in the missing middle years from soapy, randy priest sags, which enreptured the viewing public in the early Eightles, you may remember (or you may like to forget). Opening in 1943, Maggie (then played by Rachel Ward; now played by Amanda Dornohoe) has been abandoned by her husband and is struggling to bring up her children in the outback. Enter Richard Chamberlain and his dog collar, the former looking postlyely mummified. Well, he is 67 now positively independent in the former looking postlyely mummified. the former looking postively mumminea. w now. Positively indecent (S) (T) (58583855)

9.45 IIIII Within the Rock (Gary J Turnicilife 1995 US). Any number of esteroid-collision-Earth blockbusters are heading our way, at the moment, so get it out of your system with this surprisingly effective piece of TV movie sci-fl. When a huge rock starts heading our way, a band of scientists (played by the confusingly-named Caroline Barolay and Xander Berkeley) are rocketed on to its surface to try to find a way of diverting it. However, they are not alone ... (3937923).

11.55 Compromising Situations (S) (7055519).

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILBERT